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OPINION METER

This week's poll:
If the election is held today, which of these four who want to run for the delegate position would you vote for?

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INSIDE



New Role

With a looming shortage of primary care doctors, a nurse may soon be your doctor.

NATION...Page 14



China Temblor

A series of strong earthquakes struck China's Qinghai province, killing at least 300.

ASIA...Page 15



War Aftermath

It was his third round in Iraq when Joe Callan began wondering how long his luck would last.

FOCUS...Page 17

Tiny Tokelau declares 11th Pacific whale sanctuary. PAGE 6
US territories push for inclusion in Travel Act. PAGE 7

USDOE warns Fitial of potential failure to meet grant requirements

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

U.S. Department of Education direc-

tor Joseph C. Conaty of the Academic Improvement and Teacher Quality Programs wrote to Gov. Benigno R. Fitial on April 12, warning him of enforce-

ment actions against the CNMI if it fails to meet its fiscal obligations that include not meeting the maintenance-of-efforts waiver requirement of the American Re-

covery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

Conaty's two-page letter, a copy of which was obtained yesterday by *Saipan*

See USDOE on Page 4

LAWMAKERS TO FLAME TREE ARTS FEST, LIBERATION DAY ORGANIZERS:

'What happened to last year's \$60K?'

» Delegation not giving \$100K without accounting of last year's funds
» Lawmakers OK Blanco on Zoning board; pass \$90K pork barrel bill

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation chair Rep. Ramon "Ray" A. Tebuteb said the delegation will not

be handing out \$100,000 for the 2010 Flame Tree Arts Festival and Liberation Day festivities without first receiving a report on how the \$60,000 given for the same events last year was spent.

See WHAT on Page 4

Kumugai, Ito top Sengebau Poetry contest



MONETH G. DEPOSA

Calvary Christian Academy's Yui Ito and Kagman High School's Joseph Kumagai Jr. receive the perpetual plaque after being named the winners in the Seventh Annual Sengebau Poetry Competition held Tuesday night. Ito emerged champion in the junior division while Kumagai topped the senior division.

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Kagman High School's Joseph Kumagai Jr. and Calvary Christian Academy's Yui Ito emerged champions in this year's Sengebau Poetry Competition, held Tuesday night at the American Memorial Park's Visitors Center Theater.

See KUMUGAI on Page 4

WASC team ends 2-day visit; Orsini a no-show at interview

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

A two-member team from the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges ended its two-day special visit by meeting with key officials of the Northern Marianas College yesterday.

See WASC on Page 4



HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

FASHION FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

Alyssa Legaspi, 14, an 8th grader at Grace Christian Academy, sashays down the runway in the winning dress designed by 12th grader Ceejay Libut and made from recyclable materials such as trash bags and old newspapers in yesterday's Recycling Fashion Show at the Grace Christian Academy on Navy Hill.

See story on Page 5



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Local

IT&E responds to GTA's questioning of \$8M stimulus grant

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

IT&E said yesterday that its proposed plan to improve broadband infrastructure using \$8 million in federal stimulus grant will impact more than 30 communities within Guam and Saipan.

"The success of this effort should be viewed positively and encourage local businesses and government institutions to avail

themselves of federal grant opportunities as it benefits the entire Marianas community," IT&E said. *See full IT&E statement on Page 11.*

The telecommunications firm issued this following GTA TeleGuam's statement on Tuesday questioning the U.S. National Telecommunications and Information Administration's award of an \$8 million grant to IT&E.

GTA TeleGuam, which was privatized five years ago, ques-

tioned whether NTIA "is making the best use of that money, when some of the taxpayer funds are going for projects that will compete with private companies on Guam."

"Claims that Guam is unserved or under-served are overblown and contrary to facts on the ground," said Daniel J. Tydingco, executive vice president of external and legal affairs for GTA TeleGuam.

He said this broadband stimu-

lus funding is "unnecessary and inappropriate."

Tydingco said awarding limited taxpayer dollars in this manner "is a perverse use of government resources."

"This will create publicly funded competition against private tax-paying companies like GTA TeleGuam," he added.

IT&E, GTA, Docomo and Northern Marianas College were among the entities in the Marianas that submitted appli-

cations for a share of the more than \$7.2 billion in federal funding that was made available as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act stimulus package to create jobs and improve broadband infrastructure.

On April 1, NTIA announced an \$8 million grant to IT&E from the Broadband Technologies Opportunity Program.

"Over 1,800 grant proposals were submitted to NTIA for consideration and IT&E is proud to be one of the 140 selected for funding and we are very pleased to provide the en-

tire Marianas community with the opportunity to partake in the Broadband Stimulus grant funding which will benefit the overall economies of Guam and the CNMI by providing improved broadband services and creating direct employment opportunities," IT&E said.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial had said that although the \$8 million will be shared between the CNMI and Guam, he is optimistic the expansion of broadband access will spur economic growth, create jobs, and improve education and health care for the islands.



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PUBLIC NOTICE

April 13, 2010

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, the Board of Directors of the Development Corporation Division (DCD) of the Commonwealth Development Authority thru its Chairwoman, hereby informs the general public that the DCD Board of Directors will meet on Saturday, April 17, 2010 at 9:00 A.M. The meeting will be held at the CDA Conference Room, 2nd Floor, Wakin's Building, Chalan Pale Arnold Road, Saipan. The agenda for this meeting is as follows:

AGENDA

- I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
 1. Roll Call
- II. ADOPTION OF AGENDA
- III. ADOPTION OF MINUTES
 1. December 17, 2009
- IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS
- V. REPORTS
 1. Financial Report – DCD
 2. Loan Reports
 - a. Loan Applications' Report
 - b. Approved Loans & Bank Guarantees' Report
 - c. Loan Status/Receivables Report
 - d. DCD Performing Loan Summary/Delinquency & Litigation Reports
- VI. OLD BUSINESS
- VII. NEW BUSINESS
 1. New Loan Request
 2. Other Requests
- VIII. OTHER MATTERS
- IX. ADJOURNMENT

All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony on the above agenda items. (Note: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a)(7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session)

/s/ MARCIE M. TOMOKANE
Chairwoman, CDA Board of Directors



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PUBLIC NOTICE

April 13, 2010

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, the Board of Directors of the Commonwealth Development Authority thru its Chairman, hereby informs the general public that the CDA Board of Directors will hold its regular meeting on Friday, April 16, 2010 at 10:00 A.M. The meeting will be held at the CDA Conference Room, Second Floor, Wakin's Building, Chalan Pale Arnold Road, Saipan. The agenda for this meeting is as follows:

AGENDA

- I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
 1. Roll Call
 2. Adoption of Agenda
- II. ADOPTION OF MINUTES
 - a. January 27, 2010
- III. PUBLIC COMMENTS
- IV. REPORTS
 1. Financial Report - CDA
 2. Legal Counsel's Report
- V. DIVISIONS/COMMITTEES
 1. Administrative Matters/Personnel & Budget
 - a. CDA Board Resolution 2009-003
 - b. FY 2011 Budget
 - c. Personnel Matters
 2. Development Corporation Division (DCD)
 3. DBD/Public Finance Committee
 4. QC Program/Economic Development Activities
 - a. World Corporation d.b.a. World Resort Saipan
 - b. WDI Saipan, Inc.
 - c. Other QC Matters
- VI. OLD BUSINESS
 1. Pacific Islands Development Bank (PIDB)
 2. Small Business Development Center (SBDC) – Update
 3. Business Incubator - Update
- VII. NEW BUSINESS
 1. APAFS – Sponsorship of Country Conference
- VIII. OTHER MATTERS
- IX. ADJOURNMENT

All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony on the above agenda items. (Note: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a)(7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session)

/s/ PEDRO I. ITIBUS
Chairman, CDA Board of Directors

Judge tentatively grants AG's motion in Aldan's case

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Superior Court associate judge David Wiseman tentatively granted yesterday Attorney General Edward Buckingham's motion to withdraw the government's motion to withdraw a plea agreement entered by Vicente T. Aldan.

Wiseman said he will issue a written decision.

Wiseman said he wants to proceed with the hearing on the government's motion to hold Aldan in contempt for willfully disobeying a court order to surrender the firearm he used in committing crimes.

Buckingham asked for more time in the contempt proceeding.

The judge reset the contempt hearing for May 7.

Wiseman noted that Buck-

ingham's motion to withdraw did not cite any legal authority at all, nor is it a strong argument that an attorney needs supervision or an attorney needs approval from the supervisor.

"Attorneys are officers of the court. They are subject to court rules," the judge said.

Buckingham, in his motion to withdraw the motion to set aside the plea agreement, said it was then assistant attorney general

George Hasselback—not the Office of the Attorney General—that sought to wipe Aldan's criminal conviction.

Buckingham said a motion to remove an existing conviction is, as Wiseman noted, extraordinary.

Aldan, 52, was sentenced in November 2009 to six months in prison without parole for assaulting his former wife in July 2009 on Tinian. As part of his

plea bargain, he was supposed to surrender the gun he used in the assault. He failed to do so, prompting Hasselback to file a motion to withdraw the plea agreement and reinstate the charges against Aldan.

Hasselback later tried to withdraw the motion, at the instruction of Chief Prosecutor Rosemond B. Santos.

In her declaration, Santos stated that she found several deficiencies in the plea agreement Hasselback drafted in Aldan's

case. Santos also pointed out that Hasselback did not consult her prior to filing the motion to set aside Aldan's plea agreement.

Buckingham said the public has been subjected to unwarranted and unfounded concerns of favoritism and political interference.

"Retention of a conviction and holding a defendant accountable to established penalties benefits the Commonwealth served by the Office of the Attorney General," Buckingham said.

Federal court denies Fund board's motion to reconsider its stay order

The federal court denied yesterday the NMI Retirement Fund board's request for the court to reconsider its ruling directing the parties in the lawsuit against Gov. Benigno Fitial and the Fund to suspend proceedings.

U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge Mark W. Bennett, however, adopted the suggestion of the Fund board that it file a joint status report with the Fund.

"All other aspects of the court's orders remain in full force and effect, including the stay," said Bennett in a two-page order.

The judge said he decided the Fund board's motion without oral argument or the necessity of a filing by any other party in the interests of conserving the resources of the court and the parties.

On Friday, Bennett ordered

the parties in the lawsuit filed by two unnamed retirees against Fitial and Fund to submit individual reports no later than Friday, April 16.

Bennett said each report shall contain, among other things, the number of times the parties have met since Jan. 25, 2010, in an effort to reach agreement on

payment of the Superior Court judgment.

Yesterday, the Fund board, through counsel Deborah E. Fisher, asked the court to reconsider the order.

Fisher said the board believes the lawsuit is stayed until the Ninth Circuit renders its decision, thus the federal court

lacks jurisdiction to proceed with this case.

The lawsuit arises from allegations that the Fund has failed to pay the complainants their retirement benefits. Attorney Bruce Jorgensen is representing the unnamed plaintiffs.

Last Jan. 25, then federal court chief judge Alex Mun-

son found the arguments of the plaintiffs compelling but he stayed proceedings in the lawsuit for 60 days to allow the parties more time to negotiate in the Superior Court a realistic plan for the timely payment of the \$230 million the CNMI government owes the Fund. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

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KUMUGAI

From Page 1

Kumugai's poem, titled *Mirrorcles*, was named the best entry in the senior division, besting nine other competitors from various public and private schools. This year marks his third time to join the contest; he bagged second place last year.

A born artist, the 12th grader said it is through his poems that he freely expresses his thoughts and ideas, feelings, and aspirations in life.

"This is what I love to do...and I am proud of all my poems," he said, adding that the poetry competition enhanc-

es his skills and inspires more youths to become great poets someday.

Kumagai, son of Joseph Kumagai Sr. and Carmen Sablan, described his entry as a reflection of the present's opposites.

Ito emerged overall champion in the junior division with her poem *Saipan's Song and Dance*. The 13-year-old poet is the daughter of Daisuke and Imelda Ito and was a first-timer in the competition.

"I didn't expect to win...and I am so happy! This is my first time in the competition," she said after the awarding rites, adding that it was her teacher who inspired her to join in the contest.

The NMI Council for the Humani-

ties, which organized the annual event, awarded perpetual plaques to the two champions.

Other winners

Other winners in the senior division included Lallane Guiao of Saipan Southern High School, second place; KHS' Christian Alexander Yamada, third place; and honorable mentions Maryann Mesngon Ulloa of Rota High School and Zelena Kaye Palijo of CCA.

In the junior division, other winners were Rota Junior High School's Pete Manglona, second place; GCA-Rota's Amelia Quitugua, third place; and honorable mentions Bonnibeth Marie Bachon of GCA-Rota and Iris

Yu of CCA.

There were 20 competitors in both divisions. Entries were rated based on content and recital. The poems addressed themes of culture, identity, and change in the Northern Marianas.

Judges in the competition included Catherine Perry-Anderson, Galvin Deleon Guerrero, Robert Hunter, Laila Boyer, Leo Goode, and Angel Hocog.

According to NMI Council for the Humanities board chair Charles Reyes Jr., the annual poetry competition was established to support the work of young poets and to honor the legacy of Micronesia's foremost poet, Valentine N. Sengebau.

Sengebau was a son of Palau who

spent the last 25 years of his life in his adopted home of Saipan.

He composed dozens of works that expressed the joys and sorrows of his life and also explored the issues of the day, including loss of cultural identity on the islands as well as the political negotiations between the United States and Micronesia.

Reyes extended his appreciation to the student poets, the National Park Service for hosting the event and Park ranger Nancy Kelchner for her assistance. He also lauded the support of the Tan Siu Lin Foundation for providing hotel accommodations and making it possible for the students from Rota and Tinian to join the competition.

WASC

From Page 1

On Tuesday, four Board of Regents members—board chair Janet H. King, vice chair Paz Younis, and members Malua Peter and Elaine Orilla—had a one-on-one interviews with the accrediting team at the conference room. Yesterday, two other regents went through the same process: Frank Rabauliman and Charles Cepeda.

Saipan Tribune learned that regent Andrew Orsini was the only member

who failed to meet with the visitors. In a recent meeting, Orsini opposed the individual meetings, arguing that regents represent the college as a group and must meet with the ACCJC officials as a full board.

Sources told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that some key persons at the college were also for 30-minute individual interviews with the visitors. Among those who were asked to appear were interim president Lorraine Cabrera, accreditation liaison officer Galvin Deleon Guerrero, acting dean of Academic Affairs Patrick Moran, chief

financial and administrative officer Henry Hofschneider, Faculty Senate president Larry Lee, department chair Frank Sobolewski, Staff Senate president Clarice Arriola, and student council officers.

NMC officials refused to disclose the names of the two visiting officials.

Saipan Tribune learned that, although there were some questions related to "other issues" at the college, the discussions centered mostly on NMC's governance, eligibility, and other accreditation standards.

Board chair Janet King refused to

disclose details of the interview, citing WASC's confidentiality rule.

King said the team's report on the two-day visit will be made public in the commission's June meeting, where NMC intends to send a representative.

Mum on discussions

Until the team report is made public, NMC representatives will be unable to comment on any discussions they have had with the visiting team, the college said in a statement yesterday.

NMC said the two-day special visit was not a comprehensive evaluation.

"The content of the team report and the team recommendations will be made publicly available after they have been submitted to the accrediting commission in June 2010," said Galvin Deleon Guerrero, NMC director of institutional effectiveness and accreditation liaison officer. "Before that, neither the representatives from the college nor the ACCJC will publicly comment on the visit."

Deleon Guerrero assured the community and students, however, that NMC remains diligent in meeting accreditation standards and in maintaining full accreditation status.

USDOE

From Page 1

Tribune, has yet to find its way to the Fitial administration, said press secretary Angel Demapan.

Previously, warnings from DOE were conveyed only by Public School System officials to the media.

This is the first official USDOE letter to come out as a result of concerns raised by CNMI education and elected officials.

The MOE requires the CNMI to provide 26.68 percent of its budget to education. Of this, 22,737 must be for PSS, and the rest, for the Northern Marianas College.

The austerity bill pending in the Senate may result in PSS getting a lesser amount than the required percentage so PSS is asking for an exemption.

Conaty said the House passage of an austerity bill seeking an across-the-board reduction from 80 to 70 hours per pay period of government work hours raises "serious concerns regarding the

CNMI's ability to meet the waiver criterion."

"If the department determines through monitoring or an audit that [the] CNMI is failing to meet its fiscal obligations, including failing to meet the MOE waiver requirement, it will take appropriate actions against CNMI," Conaty told Fitial.

The federal official said such actions include, among other things, the disapproval of the CNMI's application for State Fiscal Stabilization Fund phase two funding or the recovery of SFSF funds previously awarded to the CNMI.

"Any action that reduces the percentage of total non-federal revenues spent on education in FY 2010 below 26.68 percent spent in 2009 makes CNMI ineligible for an MOE waiver and jeopardizes its entire SFSF allocation," Conaty told the governor.

The CNMI Senate may tackle House Bill 17-45, or the austerity bill, in tomorrow's special session after conducting a series of public hearings on Saipan, Tinian and Rota in the past few days.

Demapan, when asked for comment yesterday, said the Fitial administration has yet to receive a copy of the USDOE letter but said that the MOE waiver requirement is being met.

He reiterated that the Fitial administration's proposed funding for PSS meets the MOE waiver requirement.

For FY 2011, PSS is recommended a \$30.1 million budget. Although this could meet the MOE requirement, any austerity cut would cause the budget to go down and result in not meeting the percentage cutoff, PSS said. It added that the austerity bill will result in the immediate loss of \$16 million in federal funding and the loss of \$28 million more that the CNMI already received.

MOE waiver

As a condition of receiving funds under ARRA's State Fiscal Stabilization Fund program, the CNMI assured that will provide, for each of fiscal years 2009 through 2011, at least the levels of support for elementary and secondary education and for public institutions of higher education as it provided

for FY 2006.

Conaty said the CNMI has a continuing obligation to meet the MOE requirements through FY 2011 even if it spends all of its SFSF funds prior to that fiscal year.

Conaty said recent actions by the CNMI Legislature, however, raise serious concerns regarding the CNMI's ability to meet the waiver criterion.

Demapan said the MOE requires that a state or jurisdiction provide the same level of funding as in previous years using FY 2006 as the base year for the SFSF.

"The CNMI waived the MOE requirements as we knew we couldn't maintain that same level of funding due to the trend of declining resources. We did this during the application process and as consequence of the grant being approved, the request for waiver was approved. The waiver requirements maintain that if a jurisdiction can't maintain the same funding level, that the same percentage provided in FY06 is given in the grant years... In formulating the budget, we have ensured that

this compliance is diligently observed," Demapan said.

'Appalling'

Conaty, in his letter to Fitial, made reference to a March 30, 2010 teleconference among USDOE, PSS Commissioner Dr. Rita Sablan, Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (D-MP), and senators detailing the MOE waiver criterion and potential consequences if the CNMI does not meet the criterion for a waiver.

Demapan said the Fitial administration finds it "very appalling that the administration," particularly the Office of Management and Budget and the Department of Finance, "were not considered to participate."

"Given the intensity of the subject matter, the presence of admin officials would have ensured that all areas of concerns were addressed. Evidently, there is a pursuit of a specific agenda instead of a pursuit of a collaborative effort to ensure the overall welfare of the Commonwealth," the press secretary said.

WHAT

From Page 1

As of yesterday afternoon, the delegation had yet to receive reports on the accounting of expenditures made last year, said Tebuteb.

"Until such time we get a proper accounting of last year's spending and revenues, we won't be able to appropriate new money for this," Tebuteb told *Saipan Tribune*.

Community and Cultural Affairs Secretary Melvin L.O. Faisao asked the delegation for a \$55,000 budget for this year's Flame Tree Arts Festival, set for April 23 to 25—just eight days from today.

Saipan Mayor Donald Flores also asked the delegation to provide a \$45,000 funding for this year's Liberation Day festivities set for June and early July.

\$100,000 versus \$60,000

The combined \$100,000 funding requests for these two events are much more than the \$60,000 that the delegation granted the two programs last year.

The delegation granted \$45,000 for the Liberation Day festivities last year.

It also granted a \$15,000 funding for the Flame Tree Arts Festival last year, and Tebuteb said preliminary figures reaching his office stated that the events committee reported spending \$63,000.

Rep. Ray N. Yumul (R-Saipan) sought Attorney General Edward T. Buckingham's opinion on last year's Flame Trees Arts Festival financial report, particularly to ensure proper spending of money allocated for the event.

Yumul cited a July 10, 2009, financial report for the festival stating that the event committee "had spent funds that were never allocated for the event." He has yet to receive an opinion from Buckingham on the matter.

Faisao said the Department of Com-

munity and Cultural Affairs is "very much aware" of the CNMI's economic situation and declining government revenue but "we do not want to put this activity at halt this year" since the annual Flame Tree Arts Festival is known as the "largest arts festival in Micronesia."

This is the 29th year that the arts festival will be held.

Absent an appropriation from Saipan lawmakers, the festival committee can still go on with the event and collect fees from participants and sponsors.

Faisao submitted a breakdown of the 2010 budget request for the event, including \$32,686 for booths and performance venue costs, \$4,900 for program prizes, and \$4,384 for "other/miscellaneous" items.

Faisao's submission also included \$13,030 to pay for the accommodation of delegates from Rota and Tinian. These include expenses for airline tickets, bus transportation on Saipan, hotel accommodation, and meals.

But Tebuteb said DCCA or the festival participants from Rota and Tinian may have to seek assistance from the members of the Rota and Tinian Legislative Delegations for their expenses this year.

Flores also presented estimated revenue of \$101,000 and expenditure of \$225,400, resulting in a projected net loss of \$124,400.

One of the mayor's staffers said these figures are "very rough estimates." The Saipan mayor's office hopes to cover at least half of the shortfall with funding from the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation.

New Zoning board member

During its Tuesday special session, the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation unanimously confirmed the appointment of Diego C. Blanco to serve as a member of the Commonwealth Zoning Board.

"I'm here to help. I think I can contribute something to the Zoning board,"

Blanco said. "There are portions [of the law] that need to be simplified. There are also unnecessary requirements. ...I promise you guys I will do my best."

Blanco is currently the business development manager for GPPC Inc. Prior to this, he was administrative consultant for the Department of Public Works from 2003 to February 2006. Before that, he was a businessman in Palau.

\$90,000 appropriations bill

On a 13-3 vote and one abstention, the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation also passed House Local Bill 17-10, which appropriates \$90,000 in lapsed/unobligated funds from three Saipan local laws for other projects.

On a 17-0 vote, the delegation also approved Rep. Stanley Torres' (Ind-Saipan) request to recall House Local Bill 17-2, which passed the delegation on March 4 and transmitted to the governor on March 5. The local bill seeks to amend the Saipan Zoning Law of 2008.

IN VILLAGOMEZ'S, SANTOSES' MOTION FOR RELEASE

Iowa judge to issue ruling next week

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_deltorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The federal court placed under advisement yesterday the renewed bid of former lieutenant governor Timothy P. Villagomez, James A. Santos, and Joaquina V. Santos that they be released on bail while their appeal remains pending at the Appeals Court.

After hearing the arguments of both defense and prosecution lawyers, U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge Mark W. Bennett said he will issue a written opinion next week.

Bennett is the chief judge of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Iowa.

Assistant U.S. attorney Eric O'Malley represented the U.S. government at the hearing. Attorneys Joey San Nicolas and Ramon Quichocho appeared for Villagomez and Joaquina Santos respectively. Attorney Vincent DLG. Torres served as counsel for James Santos. Attorneys Donald Horgan, David Lujan, and Leilani Lujan spoke on the phone.

Horgan argued the motion for all defendants. The Lujans also joined in the arguments as counsels for Villagomez.

Horgan and the defense lawyers basically argued that Villagomez and the Santos couple are entitled to temporary release and reiterated their previous arguments, among other things, that it is "fairly debatable" whether the defendants were denied their right to a public trial.

Torres said this is a very se-

rious case in which the defendants are incarcerated and their families are suffering. "All they ask for is a just and fair trial," he said.

Torres said many family members and friends of the defendants failed to attend the trial and that barring the public from occupying the vacant seats was unjust.

"It's completely unfair," he said.

When asked to estimate the amount of space that was left unoccupied, Torres replied, "About 52 percent."

David Lujan said federal personnel were allowed inside the courtroom, but anyone from the public was not allowed.

O'Malley said the government submits that it was a public trial. O'Malley cited the presence of the media on daily basis, students on three or four occasions, a former governor, a former first lady, senators, congressmen, and several other educated people.

"That's what Judge Munson did," the prosecutor said. "The system worked. It was a fair trial."

O'Malley said there is nothing in the record that shows that Munson closed the courtroom from the public.

Villagomez and the Santos couple are now in their respective designated prison facilities in the U.S. mainland to serve their sentences (87 months for Villagomez and 60 months each for Santos couple) for their participation in the Rydlyme corruption scandal.

Young designers rule GCA's Recycling Fashion Show

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Young fashion designers of Grace Christian Academy took center stage yesterday with the school's first Recycling Fashion Show, an event that saw eight seniors taking home major prizes.

The event, intended to promote recycling among students and teachers in and outside campus, was also intended to select the best entries that will represent the school in the upcoming islandwide recycling competition, organized by the Division of Environmental Quality.

Environmental Science teacher Teresa T. Blanco said she was amazed at the creativity of her students upon

seeing their creations yesterday. Students and teachers from various classes were also among the spectators of the fashion show.

The biggest winner was the design of 12th grader Ceejay Libut, who artistically converted recycled newspapers and trash bags into an elegant dress, modeled by 8th grader Alyssa Legaspi.

"I am so happy! This is something unexpected...but I believe my entry deserves to win and represent our school in the competition [next week]. I am hoping for the best," Libut told *Saipan Tribune*.

Legaspi, for her part, said she

truly admires Libut's creation and is confident that it will get a place in the upcoming islandwide competition.

Hailed second best entry was the creation of Joice Santos, modeled by 8th grader Keena Ta. The black-and-white dress, also made of recycled trash bags, got the approving nod of all judges in the contest.

Vinni Orsini's creation, a used curtain shower transformed into an elegant gown and modeled by Lauren Hofschneider, was hailed as third best entry. Orsini also used recycled popsicle sticks for a beautiful fan, and paper for the gown's creative design.

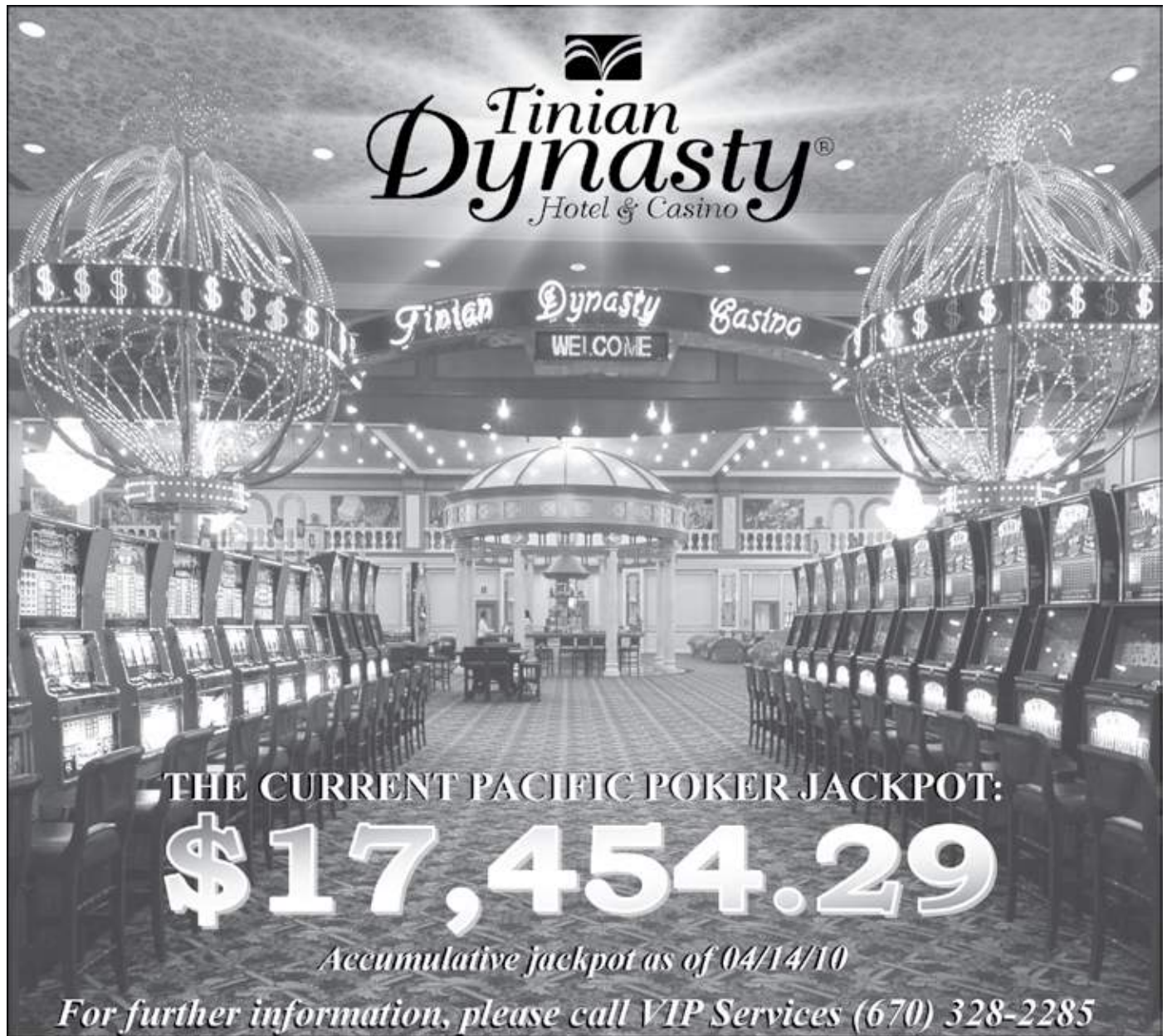
"I am extremely proud of this dress...because it's so beautiful. I am excited to present this in the competition," Hofschneider said.

It was learned that the designers and their models only had a few days to work on their entries. The three young winners said they will consult with the school's organizers if there's a need to enhance their creations for the upcoming islandwide recycling contest.

DEQ will hold its recycling fashion show on April 22 at the American Memorial Park where public and private schools are expected to participate.

Yesterday's entries were judged based on the following criteria: use of recycled materials, originality, creativity, appearance and fit, fashionability, and audience impact.

Blanco said they came up with the activity in relation to the topic currently being discussed in her class. She is convinced the event would bring a better understanding and greater awareness about recycling.



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COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 12, the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, through its Chairwoman of the Board, is hereby giving notice that a Special Meeting of the Board will be held on Thursday, April 15, 2010, at 10:00 a.m. at the NMHC Conference Room in Garapan, Saipan. The public is welcome to submit written or oral comments regarding the agenda below. Individuals interested in attending the meeting and needing special accommodations are requested to contact NMHC in advance at 670.234-6866/7689/7670 during regular business hours, 7:30 a.m. thru 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

- I. **PRELIMINARY MATTERS**
 - A. Call to Order
 - B. Roll Call
 - C. Adoption of Agenda
- II. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**
- III. **LOW-INCOME HOUSING TAX CREDIT (LIHTC) PROGRAM**
- IV. **COMMUNITY PLANNING DEVELOPMENT (CPD) PROGRAM**
 - A. PY 2010 Reduced Allocation
- V. **MORTGAGE CREDIT PROGRAMS**
 - A. Status of Rural Development - Updates
 - B. Request for Third Sale
 - C. Other Loan Related Matters
- VI. **FISCAL MATTERS**
 - A. FY 2011 Budget
 - B. Other Fiscal Related Matters
- VII. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**
- VIII. **OTHER MATTERS**
 - A. HUD Economic Development Initiative-Special Purpose Grants
- IX. **ADJOURNMENT**

NOTE: Pursuant to PL 8-41, Section 13(6) and (7), some discussion of the above may be under Executive Session.

/s/ **MARCIE M. TOMOKANE**
Chairwoman of the Board

Tiny Tokelau declares 11th Pacific whale sanctuary

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP)—The three-island territory of Tokelau declared itself a whale sanctuary Wednesday, adding a huge patch of sea to the total protected area of more than 7 million square miles that is off limits to hunting in the Pacific Ocean.

The isolated group of coral atolls with a land area of just 5 square miles (12 square kilometers) has outlawed whaling in its 116,000-square-mile (290,000-square-kilometer) exclusive economic ocean zone, spokesman Foua Toloa said.

Sanctuaries have only moral force, but are seen by supporters as helping support the recovery of decimated whale populations like the humpback and southern right whale.

Toloea made the announce-

ment at a conservation meeting in New Zealand that condemned continued whale-hunting by countries such as Japan.

"Whales don't recognize national boundaries, and Tokelau would be remiss if we failed to support our Pacific island neighbors in the quest to help recovery of the whales in our region," Toloea said.

About 1,500 people live in Tokelau, a U.N. protectorate that remains a colony of New Zealand and lies about 300 miles (500 kilometers) north of Samoa.

Tokelau's new whale sanctuary takes the number of protected areas in the Pacific to 11, and together they cover some 7.2 million square miles (18 million square kilometers).

The territory's declaration

came as whale researchers and conservationists began a meeting of the South Pacific Whale Research Consortium in New Zealand. The grouping was formed by independent scientists to investigate the status of humpback and other whale species in the region.

The group noted that despite a global moratorium on commercial whaling being in force since 1986 and an international whale sanctuary established in

1994 in the oceans around Antarctica, more than 3,000 whales are hunted and killed for their meat each year.

Japan alone kills hundreds of whales each year in Antarctic waters.

Consortium member, Scott Baker, associate director of the Marine Mammal Institute at Oregon State University, said whale sanctuaries send "very strong messages to the global community and particularly to

the whaling nations ... that they are in a minority."

The sanctuaries also help endangered whale populations return to their pre-exploitation numbers, he said.

Sue Taei, co-chairwoman of the research group, said Tokelau was joining other Pacific nations in calling on whalers to respect sanctuaries, including the southern oceans' sanctuary where Japan hunts each year.

Baker said Japan was breaking two agreements by hunting whales in the southern oceans—contravening both the 1994 agreement to set up the sanctuary and the 1986 majority vote in the International Whaling Commission setting up the moratorium on

commercial whaling.

Japan classes its annual hunt—mostly of nonendangered minke whales—as scientific whaling within the commission's rules, but opponents regard it as illegal commercial whaling under the guise of science.

The 11 Pacific nations and territories that have established whale sanctuaries within their ocean economic zones are: Australia, Cook Islands, Fiji, French Polynesia, New Caledonia, Niue, Papa New Guinea, Samoa, Tokelau, American Samoa and Vanuatu.

Two nations, New Zealand and Tonga, and two territories, Guam and the Northern Marianas, have passed laws banning the taking of whales from their economic zones but have not declared sanctuary areas.

Ex-convict arrested for allegedly beating up his common-law wife

An ex-convict on probation allegedly beat up his common-law wife after she asked him to clean the outside of their house

Sablan's temporary liberty. Inos set the preliminary hearing on April 27 at 9am.

Assistant attorney general Jennifer Dockter appeared for the government. Assistant public defender Matthew Holley was named to represent the defendant.

Detective Peter A. Aldan stated in his report that on Monday morning, as the victim was talking with her aunt on the telephone, she told Sablan to help clean the outside of the house in Koblerville Housing because there will be housing inspection.

Sablan allegedly got mad, grabbed a scissor from a closet, and threatened to cut the telephone line.

When the victim tried to stop Sablan, he allegedly smacked her head twice and pulled the line off the phone jack. Sablan then walked out of the house and broke a flowerpot by kicking it. The victim ran to a neighbor's house where she used a cell phone to call the police.

Police learned that Sablan had cut the victim's phone line six times prior to this incident, but she did not report these incidents to the police.

The victim told police that Sablan had physically assaulted her numerous times, but she did not file a report because she was ashamed.

She said the last time he beat her up was last Saturday, forcing her to leave the house. She returned home the following day.

In February 2001, police arrested Sablan for allegedly stabbing a Chinese man along Afetas Road. The victim sustained a severe puncture to the right lung.

Police said Sablan and his girlfriend were walking on the road and had an argument.

When the victim passed by on a bicycle, Sablan suddenly stabbed him with a blunt object. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

Robert Tenorio Torres
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Saipan, MP 96950

Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax: (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Bank of Guam

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA
ISLANDS

BANK OF GUAM, Plaintiff,	Civil Action No. 09-0027-CV
vs.	
MARTIN B. ADA, Defendants.	NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on March 30, 2010, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in the following property: Lot No. 566 NEW-9-2-R1, consisting of 873 square meters, and Lot No. 566 NEW-9-2-R2, consisting of 2,194 square meters located in San Vicente, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Located on the property is a fully concrete, three bedroom, one bathroom house with a porch and one car garage / carport. House is approximately 15 years old, and in need of some interior repair. Existing power and sewage hook-up, and paved road to house.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on June 1, 2010, at the hour of 10:00 am, at the Law Office of Robert T. Torres, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public and will be held in reserve.

Terms and Conditions of Sale.
1. Rights and duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:

a) withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
b) To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
c) To reject any and all bids.

2. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, PO Box 5003758 CK, Saipan, MP 9695, Phone: 670-234-7859; Fax: 670-234-5749.

3. Deposit Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check, or credit card. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the 10% deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the property will revert to the Bank of Guam.

4. Change of Terms. Auctioneer and the Bank of Guam reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct an enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.

5. Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property; contact the Law Office of Robert T. Torres for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

DATED this 8th day of April, 2010.

/s/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950

Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax: (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Bank of Guam

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA
ISLANDS

BANK OF GUAM, Plaintiff,	Civil Action No. 09-0028-CV
vs.	
MARTIN B. ADA, Defendants.	NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on March 30, 2010, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in the following property: Lot No. 011 H 28, consisting of 650 square meters located in Chalan Kanoa, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Located on the lot is a fully concrete, seven bedroom, one bathroom house with a porch and carport. House is approximately 15 years old, and in need of some repair. There are existing power and sewage hook-ups.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on June 1, 2010, at the hour of 10:00 am, at the Law Office of Robert T. Torres, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public and will be held in reserve.

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DATED this 8th day of April, 2010.

/s/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer



Aldan

Police hunting down suspected burglar

Police are hunting down a suspected burglar who fled after an occupant of a Kagman III residence caught him in the act inside the house Saturday afternoon.

Department of Public Safety spokesman Eric F. David said yesterday that Jeffrey Castro Aldan, 38, is wanted for criminal mischief, burglary, and theft.

David said a caller contacted DPS on Saturday at 4:38pm that a burglar was inside the house.

However, when a police officer arrived at the scene, the suspect, identified as Aldan, had already left.

David said preliminary investigation showed that when the victim arrived home, he saw Aldan loading two bush

cutters and two chainsaw on his vehicle.

The victim confronted a surprised Aldan, who promised he would put the items back.

David said that when the victim told Aldan not to move because he had already called the police, the defendant got scared and fled the scene on a vehicle with license plate ACC 350.

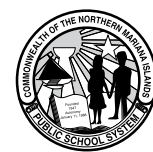
"DPS would like to inform the public if you know the whereabouts of Mr. Jeffrey Castro Aldan to please

contact the Criminal Investigation Bureau at 664-9042 or call the Crime Stoppers Hotline at 234-7272," David said.

Many residents and establishments in Kagman have been burglarized in the past few months. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)



STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
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INVITATION FOR BID PSS IFB 10-024

"Laptops for Hopwood Jr. High School"

The Public School System and the State Board of Education are soliciting competitive sealed bids for the purchase of **Laptops for Hopwood Junior High School**. The Scope of Work is available beginning April 8, 2010 at the PSS Procurement & Supply Office located on the 3rd floor of the CNMI Retirement Fund building, Capitol Hill, Saipan MP 96950. Fax request may be sent to 664.3791.

Questions must be in writing and addressed to Robert Florian, Procurement Officer via fax at (670) 664-3791 or e-mailed to the following address: robert.florian@cnmipss.org

Bids must be placed in a sealed envelope marked **"IFB 10-024"** containing one (1) original with Three (3) copies and submitted to the PSS Procurement & Supply Office situated on the 3rd Floor of the CNMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **April 22, 2010**, at 10:00 a.m., at which time bids, will be publicly opened. Any bids received after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted.

/s/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D.
Commissioner of Education

/s/ Robert Florian
Procurement & Supply Officer

US territories push for inclusion in Travel Act

CNMI Gov. Benigno R. Fitial has joined Guam Gov. Felix P. Camacho, American Samoa Gov. Togiola Tulafono, and U.S. Virgin Islands Gov. John P. deJongh Jr. in sending a joint letter urging U.S. Department of Commerce Secretary Gary Locke to ensure adequate representation for the U.S. territories

in the recently enacted Travel Promotion Act.

The Act will be governed by an 11-member board composed of individuals representing the states, the federal government and members of the travel industry. The territorial governors are asking that Locke consider appointing a board member with

specific knowledge of the travel industry within the territories.

In the letter the governors wrote, they said: "Given that the additional requirement that directors broadly represent various regions of the United States—which as the sponsors of the Act made clear, includes the U.S. territories—and giv-

en that the territories present unique challenges, and opportunities with respect to tourism, we believe that it is not only appropriate but necessary for at least one of the members of the board to possess expertise and significant experience in territorial tourism."

"We laud and support our governors' collective efforts to assure the territories are represented in the Travel Promotion Corporation. It is critical

to recognize that the territories contribute significantly to the balance of trade between the United States and its international tourism partners around the world," said Guam Visitors Bureau chair David Tydingco.

"It is also critically important that any funds collected by the territories as a result of the implementation of the Travel Promotion Corporation stay in the territories and be directed at tourism promotion and devel-

opment for the islands," said Camacho, "Having representation on the Travel Promotion Corporation will assure that this important issue will be at the top of the agenda for our representative."

The Act calls for promoting the nation's travel policies travel to the United States, and providing exposure to U.S. destinations that do not have adequate resources to promote themselves overseas. (PR)

AON sponsors \$25K hole-in-one prize for NMC Foundation Open



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

AON Insurance's regional manager, Rod Rankin, hands over a \$25,000 check to Ivan Quichocho, a board member of the Northern Marianas College Foundation, as staff members of AON Insurance and Century Insurance Corp. look on. The check represents a hole-in-prize sponsorship that will be used during the NMC Foundation Open golf tournament on April 24 at the Saipan Lao Lao Bay Golf Resort. The NMC Foundation is a non-profit organization whose goal is to raise funds to ensure that CNMI students receive the utmost support in their educational goals.

Continuing its support of higher education in the CNMI, AON Insurance recently committed to sponsoring a \$25,000 hole-in-one prize during the Northern Marianas College Foundation's Open golf tournament to be held on April 24.

"We strongly support the NMC Foundation's efforts in providing educational opportunities for CNMI students," said AON Insurance regional manager Rod Rankin. "On behalf of the staff and management of AON Insurance, we are delighted about becoming a sponsor of an event that will benefit higher education in the Northern Mariana Islands."

The prize sponsorship was presented in support of the upcoming 8th Annual Golf Foun-

dation Open golf tournament, which is organized by the NMC Foundation. The tournament, the organization's signature event, aims to raise critical funds to support NMC's academic programs and services.

"We are grateful to AON Insurance for their kind support," said Ben Babauta, president of the NMC Foundation. "Their participation as a prize sponsor will play a major role in the success of the event."

The NMC Foundation is a non-profit organization whose goal is to raise funds to support the Northern Marianas College, the CNMI's lone postsecondary educational institution. The organization is composed of individuals who are dedicated and committed to ensuring that

CNMI students receive the utmost support in pursuing their educational goals.

"We are highly appreciative of AON Insurance's support of the NMC Foundation's golf tournament efforts and its endeavors in providing educational opportunities for students in the Marianas," said NMC interim president Lorraine Cabrera.

Saipan Lao Lao Bay Golf Resort will play host to the 8th Annual NMC Foundation Open golf tournament, scheduled for Saturday, April 24, 2010. Show time is 6am and shotgun start is 7am. Registration fee is \$95.

For sponsorship information or to register to play, contact 234-5498 Ext. 1050 or log on to the NMC Web site at www.nmcnet.edu. (NMC)

First Saipan local law in 17th Legislature renames road

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

In the 17th Legislature, the first Saipan local law to be enacted was to change the name of a portion of a road in Susupe.

House Local Bill 17-4, D2, introduced by Rep. Raymond D. Palacios (Cov-Saipan), is now Saipan Local Law 17-1.

Signed by acting Gov. Eloy Inos on April 8, the local law renames a portion of Hagoi Road where it intersects with Texas Road leading east to Susupe Lake, to Tun Jesus "Kabayu" Street.

The portion from the intersection of Texas Road and Hagoi Road westward to the Sugar Dock area remains as Hagoi Road.

Palacios said renaming a por-

tion of the existing road is meant to honor the late Jesus Guerrero, who was known as Tun Jesus "Kabayu," for his generosity and contributions to the CNMI.

Guerrero, born on Dec. 14, 1914, served the Marianas as Susupe commissioner and Municipal Council member during the Trust Territory period. He was active in civic and community activities, including coordinating the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts in Susupe, and forming baseball teams in the area.

In 1955, the late Guerrero moved with his family to the Susupe Lake area where the family contributed in maintaining the lake's beauty and granting access to tourists and CNMI residents.

"To this day, the children of the late Jesus Guerrero continue

to maintain the lake's beauty and grant access to visitors on a daily basis," Palacios said in his local bill.

Overall, the first local law to be signed in the 17th Legislature was House Local Bill 17-3, which became Rota Local Law 17-1 on March 2.

HLB 17-3, introduced by Rep. Teresita A. Santos (Ind-Rota), appropriates \$133,000 in license fees collected from poker and pachinko slot machines on Rota to go toward medical and educational needs of the island and its residents.

When it comes to CNMI-wide bills, the 29-member 17th Legislature introduced 80 bills between the inaugural session on Jan. 11 and March 31, and only one of which has so far been signed into law.

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BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT



Belated birthday greetings go out to Edinna A. Cepeda, right, shown here with her sister, Elyssa A. Cepeda. Edina celebrated her 14th birthday on April 15, 2010. May you be showered with many blessings! We love you very much! Greetings come from the family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Belated happy third birthday to our sweet baby boy, Samuel Lino Cabrera, and we wish you many more birthdays to come, good health, and good future. Little Sammy celebrated his birthday last April 12. We love you very much! Greetings come from your family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Happy birthday to our Nida Mae, who celebrates her 8th year today. We love you, baby! Love, from Mommy, Daddy, Teosy, Thadeus, And Mahya Nicole.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Flowering plants ready for beautification project

By WALTER J. SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Saipan Mayor's Office will soon be sending out crews that will be planting flowering plants all over the island as part of its 2010 Plant Nursery Beautification project.

"Right now we have close to 5,000 plants. Many of them are beginning to root so we plan on planting them very soon," said Nursery manager Ben Cepeda.

The project was started in late January this year. The nursery contains a multitude of flowers including varieties of crotons, ginger, firebush, gardenia, hibiscus, duranta, purple bell, wild berries, and more.

The flowering plants will be planted at local bus stops, parks, the Commonwealth Health Center, throughout intersections, and along secondary roadsides in village neighborhoods.

"Our water truck will be up and running soon and when it's ready we will immediately begin executing the beautification procedures," said Saipan Mayor



Saipan Mayor Donald Flores, left, stands with Nursery manager Ben Cepeda, fourth from left, and members of the 2010 Beatification Project at their nursery in Chalan Kanoa.

Donald Flores.

The nursery is currently made up mostly of flowering plants, but there are plans for acquiring trees, bushes, and shrubs for future beautification projects.

The nursery is located in Chalan Kanoa on Brigada Street be-

hind the U.S. Post Office.

Flores is also organizing work crews to grate the coral roads in the Kagman area near Kagman Junior High School.

"These roads are very rough and full of holes; the conditions can easily flatten tires and

maybe even damage suspension systems," said Flores.

He said that it is important to fill the holes and level out the terrain because the Santa Sole-dad Fiesta is taking place soon and there will be more traffic in the area at that time.

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

APRIL 16, 2001

That little ant could kill

The U.S. Department of Agriculture disclosed Saturday that killer pests from the U.S. mainland might be on its way to CNMI if quarantine procedures are not strictly implemented. Presently, construction materials are the easy target of killer ants and killer bees that are causing health problems to many states in the US, said Mitchell Nelson, USDA Animal and Health Inspection Services and Plant Protection and Quarantine director. Nelson said fire ants or *Solenopsis invicta* were originally introduced from South America in 1930 and has invaded many U.S. regions.

CUC warns of payless paydays

With revenue losses reported to have reached \$1.8 million to date, the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. warned of a possibility that employees may not be receiving their respective paychecks on time. In fact, utility officials are seriously considering reduced working hours to commensurate increasing expenses and overall economics, CUC comptroller Ed Williams disclosed. In a report, Mr. Williams told CUC officials that fuel prices continue to shoot up by 53 percent, aggravating the corporation's current fiscal standing. As if this is not yet enough, outstanding accounts with other CUC vendors remain unpaid.

APRIL 16, 2002

DPS: Cite stores selling butane to kids

Local stores caught selling butane gas or other inhalants to children should be cited, Public Safety Commissioner Edward C. Camacho asserted. "Butane and other types of gas that some kids are sniffing should not be sold by the stores to minors. And parents should not send their kids out there to buy these kinds of items," said the DPS commissioner, alarmed over the growing incidence of butane gas abuse among school children. Sniffing gas, particularly butane, among school-aged kids is reportedly compounding the community's substance abuse problems. According to experts, butane gas abuse is more lethal than tobacco and alcohol consumption.

Pete A. assures \$11M in CIP funding

Washington Rep. Pete A. Tenorio assured that the U.S. Congress is supportive of President Bush's budget plan that seeks to maintain capital improvement assistance to the CNMI at \$11 million in Fiscal Year 2003. "The U.S. Congress supports that. I don't see any resistance. The appropriate committees of Congress that are in-charge of this particular authorization and appropriation have no qualms about it. We're doing very well there," Tenorio said in a recent interview. He emphasized that the U.S. Congress fully understands the need for a full funding in the next fiscal year for capital improvement.

APRIL 16, 2003

Airlines beef up measures vs SARS

Airlines companies would be fielding questionnaires and brief medical history forms to all inbound tourists to properly monitor all arriving passengers at the Saipan International Airport to prevent the entry of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome to the CNMI. The newest procedure was forwarded to all airline companies servicing the Northern Marianas as part of the Surveillance, Detection, and Response procedure being implemented jointly by the Commonwealth Ports Authority, the Department of Public Health, the Labor and Immigration Department, and all airline companies. CPA Executive Director Carlos H. Salas disclosed yesterday that another round of meeting with airline company officials was held yesterday in response to reports that SARS may have already reached Japan as of Saturday.

DYS notes 25-percent hike in number of clients

The Division of Youth Services served a total of 1,315 individuals in fiscal year 2002, posting a 25-percent increase from the tally during the previous financial year. The year 2002 figures also represent the highest number of persons serviced by the DYS in the last three years, according to a report. The report-DYS Statistical Summary of Children, Youth and Families Served from 1998 to 2002-disclosed that the division served 269 more individuals last year, or from 1,046 to 1,315 persons. The report indicated an upward trend in the last three years, with financial year 2000 figures showing that the DYS had served 1,113 individuals, higher from the previous period's 1,067.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Summer Pre-Law Program 2010 Enrollment

Applications for the Summer Pre-Law Program 2010 are now being accepted. Two law professors will be teaching in the program, which will be held from July 5 to July 23, 2010 at the Guma' Hustisia. Past programs have helped produce at least 25 lawyers in the Northern Marianas. Applications may be downloaded from the CNMI Judiciary's Web site at www.justice.gov.mp or may be obtained at the office of the Clerk of Court, Supreme Court at the Guma' Hustisia in Susupe. Priority application deadline is Wednesday, May 5, 2010. En-

rollment is limited.

For more information, contact Martha Mendiola at the Supreme Court at (670) 236-9710, or email supreme.court@justice.gov.mp. (PR)

Islandwide Cleanup now slated as a 2-day event

The Division of Environmental Quality's Islandwide Cleanup slated for April 23rd has been extended! This event will now include both Friday, April 23, and Saturday, April 24, in order to accommodate more groups, especially in the private sector.

If you were thinking about signing up, but haven't done so

yet, contact Jonathan Arriola at DEQ 664-8500 or email jona-thanarriola@deq.gov.mp. (PR)

SSHA report cards out today

To all parents and legal guardians of Saipan Southern High School students: Term 3 report cards are scheduled to be picked up today, April 15, 2010, from 3pm to 6pm, at the Counseling Office. All students will be released at 12:50pm. Please join us. (PR)

Notice of meeting to Precinct III residents

The members of the House of Representatives from Election Precinct III will be conduct-

ing its first village meeting on April 21, 2010, Wednesday, at 6:30pm, at the Garapan Central Park. All residents of Precinct III (Capitol Hill, Sadog Tasi, Upper and Lower Navy Hill, Garapan, Gualo Rai, Chalan Laolao, Chalan Kiya and San Jose) are kindly urged to attend this important meeting. The Mayor of Saipan and representatives from the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), Workforce Investment Agency (WIA) and the Department of Public Works (DPW) will also be present to provide information that are necessary and important for the residents of Precinct III. (PR)



NOTICE OF APPLICATION
COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT
GUALO RAI, SPRING PLAZA, SAIPAN MP, 96950
TEL. NO. 664-8300 FAX NO. 664-8315
April 15, 2010



THE FOLLOWING IS A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF COASTAL PERMIT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE CRM OFFICES:

APPLICANT	DATE APPLICATION RECEIVED	APPLICATION PROJECT DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	TYPE	STATUS
1. Pacific Eagle Enterprise	04/07/10 SSm-2010-X-032	Filming Activities	Shoreline Areas	Shoreline APC	Approved (04/07/10)*
2. Saipan TV Production	04/07/10 SSm-2010-X-033	Filming Activities	Shoreline Areas	Shoreline APC	Approved (04/11/10)*
3. DTC Saipan	04/09/10 SSm-2010-X-034	Filming Activities	Shoreline Areas	Shoreline APC	Approved (04/11/10)*
4. Ichiban Marine Sports	04/12/10 SSm-2010-X-035	Beach Concession	Garapan	Shoreline APC	Approved (04/12/10)*
5. Ichiban Marine Sports	04/12/10 SLRm-2010-X-036	Banana Boat	Garapan Lagoon	Lagoon & Reef APC	Under Review*
6. Ichiban Marine Sports	04/12/10 SLRm-2010-X-037	Non-Motorized Marine Sports	Garapan Lagoon	Lagoon & Reef APC	Under Review*
7. Ichiban Marine Sports	04/12/10 SLRm-2010-X-038	Managaha Transfer	Garapan Lagoon	Lagoon & Reef APC	Under Review*

Publication of the above list is in accordance with CRM Regulations, which require all permit applications to be published in a local newspaper within 15 days of receipt of application. The list reflects recently received permit applications and those with a recent change in status. New applications are marked with an asterisk (*).

The Public is invited to submit written comments regarding any of the above projects for which a permit decision has not been issued. All permit comments should identify the project by application number. Your comments should be mailed or hand-delivered to the CRM Office. All persons who desire a public hearing regarding any project may do so by submitting a written request for a public hearing to the CRM Office within fourteen (14) days for minor permits (APC's) and proposed amended major sitings. Public Hearings are required for all new major siting projects. All public hearing notices are published in a local newspaper of general circulation. Residents of Rota and Tinian may submit comments and hearing requests to their local CRM Coordinator. Persons wishing to retain the right to appeal a CRM Permit decision must file a notice of appeal with the CRM office within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the CRM permit decision as provided in Part 200 § 15-10-235 of the CRM Regulations.

JOETEN's BEST BUYS OF THE WEEK!

APRIL 15 TO 21, 2010



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GRAND DRAW - October 16, 2010, 5pm
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See pster and print ads for details



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Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
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Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
Mark Rabago ASSISTANT EDITOR

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

When guilty means deported

The Supreme Court has recognized what would be obvious to any layperson: A competent defense attorney must inform a client that a guilty plea might lead not only to prison time but to deportation from the country.

The court last week ruled 7 to 2 for Jose Padilla, a legal resident from Honduras who was wrongly told by his lawyer that pleading guilty to a marijuana trafficking charge wouldn't change his immigration status because he'd been in the country for more than 40 years. In an opinion for himself and four colleagues, Justice John Paul Stevens said that "deportation is an integral part—indeed sometimes the most important part—of the penalty that may be imposed on noncitizen defendants who plead guilty to specific crimes." He noted that, because judges have lost their previous authority to block deportations of immigrants, accurate legal advice "has never been more important."

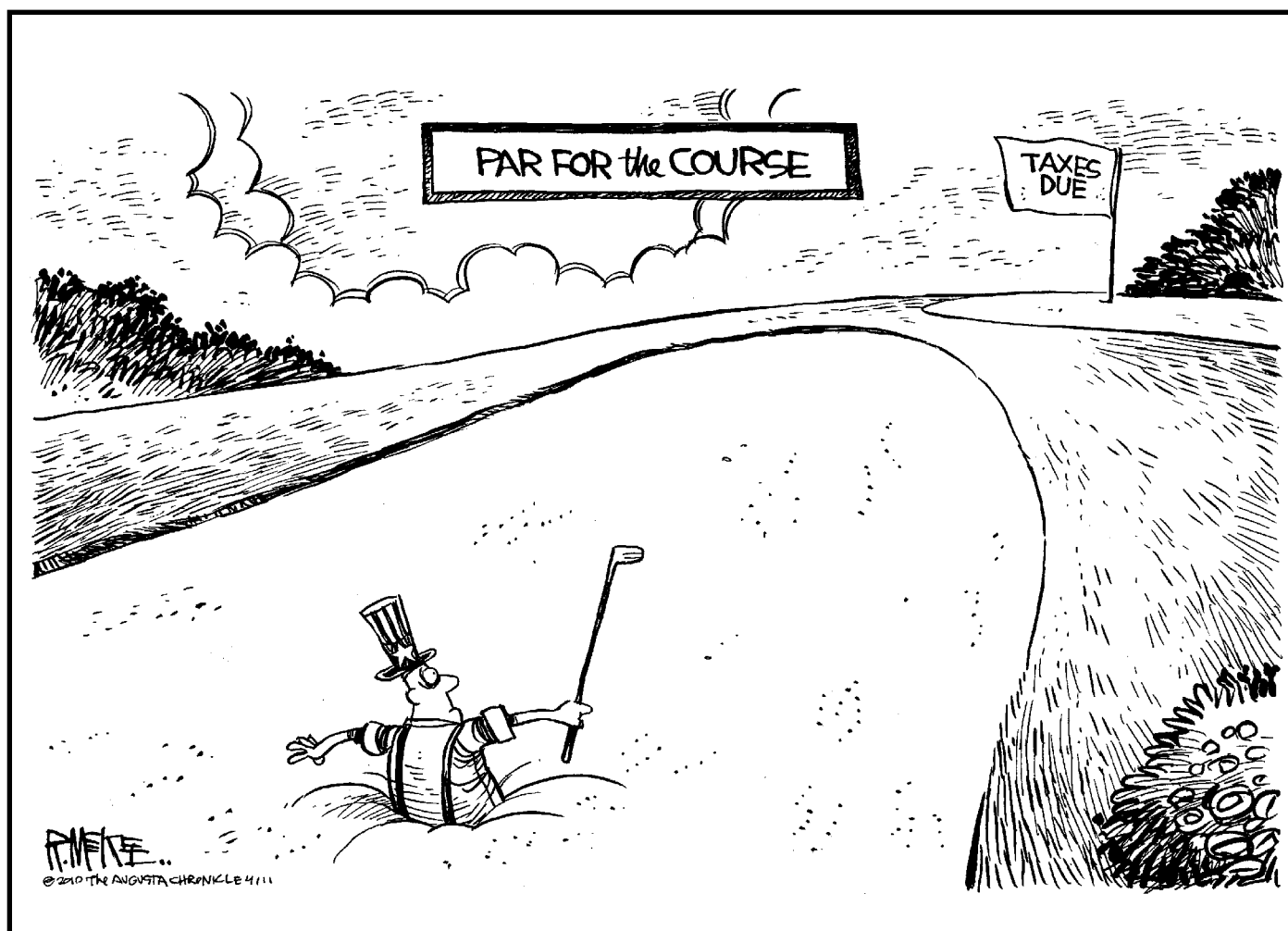
That's especially true because the interplay of state and federal laws can target an immigrant for deportation for a minor offense and not only for an "aggravated felony," as intended by the law. The court is currently studying the case of a Texas man who could be deported to Mexico for possessing one tablet of an anti-anxiety drug after he pleaded guilty the year before to having less than 2 ounces of marijuana.

Commonsensical as the court's conclusion might seem, the majority had to address fears that requiring defense attorneys to make known one "collateral" consequence of a guilty plea—deportation—would require them to be experts on every conceivable indirect result of a conviction, from loss of child custody to revocation of a driver's license to unemployment.

But Stevens' majority opinion stops this "parade of horrors" in its tracks. Unlike the other consequences of a guilty plea—some of which may be unknown to a hard-pressed defense lawyer—deportation is so central to loss of liberty that it is easy for the court to draw a bright line. Henceforth, competent defense attorneys serving legal U.S. residents must be educated about the immigration consequences of their advice. It isn't enough, as Justices Samuel A. Alito Jr. and Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr. suggested in a concurring opinion, that a lawyer refrain from offering inaccurate advice and refer the client to an immigration attorney if he has further questions.

This decision doesn't guarantee that Padilla won't be deported. Under Supreme Court precedents, he must also show that his case wouldn't have ended up the same way without the bad advice. If Padilla is convicted at trial, he may still be forced to leave the country. Still, his successful lawsuit is a victory for thousands of immigrants who each year face deportation in addition to the justice meted out to other defendants.

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Consequences of the Catholic Church's claim of statehood

By KAL RAUSTIALA and LARA STEMPE
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Giuseppe dalla Torre, a top Vatican legal adviser, declared in a pre-emptive strike last week that Pope Benedict XVI could not be sued in an American court. His statement—in response to allegations that the pope played a role in covering up, among other scandals, the sexual abuse of children at a Wisconsin school for the deaf—was unequivocal. "The pope is certainly a head of state, who has the same juridical status as all heads of state," Dalla Torre said, which grants him immunity from foreign courts.

But is the spiritual leader of the world's Roman Catholics really a "head of state" as well?

Benedict XVI is the head the church's governing body—known as the Holy See—which claims many of the privileges of a sovereign country. In recent decades the Holy See has welcomed ambassadors, signed international treaties and used its status to influence developments at the United Nations.

That the Holy See is often treated as a state is deeply troubling, for several reasons. For one thing, the Catholic Church isn't truly a sovereign nation; to allow it to play one on the international stage perverts the meaning of statehood.

Moreover, the church's claim to statehood gives it even more political influence than it would otherwise wield and grants outsized power to only one of the world's many religions. And its claim is particularly worrisome now that the church—embroiled in a disturbing scandal that has reached from Boston to Berlin—is claiming the sort of immunity enjoyed by prime ministers and presidents.

How did this situation come about? The concept of sovereign statehood first developed in 17th-century Europe, where the church was long treated as a quasi-state by Western powers. The Papal States existed within Italy for centuries. At their height, the Papal States made up most of central Italy and parts of what is now southern France.

But the church's territorial holdings were lost in battles over time, and by the end of the 19th century the church was essentially landless. Then, in the late 1920s, Vatican City was carved out of Rome via a treaty with Italy. The Holy See and Vatican City are legally distinct, but Vatican City was created to give the Holy See a territorial home and thereby safeguard its independence.

Despite opposition from many quarters, the Reagan administration initiated formal diplomatic relations with the Holy See in the 1980s. Today, nearly every country maintains diplomatic ties, and the Holy See is a "permanent observer state" at the United Nations. This persists despite its lack of most of the key legal characteristics of statehood.

It's true that Vatican City runs a popular post office and mints

its own currency. But international law requires that a "state" have four attributes: territory, a permanent population, a functioning government and the ability to engage in international relations. The last requirement largely builds on the others: Whether a state can engage in international relations is decided by whether other states treat it like one.

As to the question of territory, there exists only the small parcel of land known as Vatican City. But as any visitor knows, Vatican City is in the middle of Rome and is little more than half the size of the National Mall in Washington. In any event, the Holy See continues to claim that its international status is based on its religious authority, not its territorial enclave.

To say that Vatican City possesses a permanent population of the sort envisioned by international law is even more of a stretch. Most residents are simply members of the church hierarchy, a body composed solely of men. They number less than the student bodies of many high schools—about 800. As to the Catholics of the world, they are already represented by the governments of other nations.

Vatican City does have a functioning bureaucracy, and so has a government of sorts. Yet it is surely the most unusual government of the world, given its minute size and lack of any standard government functions, such as the administration of justice, education of the young or provision of defense. It even relies on Italy for its water, police and firefighting services.

For decades the strange practice of treating the Catholic Church as a state has been bad for women's equality, gay rights and reproductive freedom. The Holy See's fictive statehood allows it to promote its retrograde views on gender and sex in diplomatic settings and during treaty negotiations.

Now, the unfolding sexual abuse scandal reveals another dark side of the Holy See's claim to statehood: the extraordinary immunities claimed by the pope in the face of conspiracy accusations that span the globe.

Pope Benedict XVI's predecessor, John Paul II, recognized the tenuous claim to statehood. When Vladimir Putin visited Vatican City some years ago, he offered to invite the pope to Russia. Russian Orthodox leaders opposed the pontiff's visit, seeing it as an encroachment by Rome on their turf. Putin proposed a solution. As Putin later recalled, he told the pope: "I am ready to invite you as the head of state. I, as the head of state, invite you as the head of state." The pope replied, "Look out the window. What kind of state do I have here? You can see my whole state right from this window."

Kal Raustiala is professor of law and director of the Burkle Center for International Relations at UCLA. Lara Stemple is director of graduate studies at UCLA Law School. They wrote this for the Los Angeles Times.

EDITORIAL POLICY

The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, CIC Centre, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

No, I can't!

Make your life a masterpiece by taking the 60 Day Challenge. You are the artist that can create any life you want by setting and achieving worthwhile goals. Each week until May 20th this column will share ideas and stories to help motivate you toward your objectives.

“Yes” is a positive word that has been the subjects of psychologists, movies, and politicians. Businesses use it as part of their slogan to let customers know they care, and personal development gurus use it as part of their mantra to help people conquer their inner and outer world. Being able to act with confidence and say “yes” to overcome your fears and doubts can be exhilarating. However, little has been said about the tremendous power that can come when we have the confidence to say “no.”

Don't get us wrong, you should have a prioritized list of the things you'll give an emphatic “yes” to overcome your perceived limitation. However, it's also important to have an even longer list of the things you will say “no” when you're confronted with decisions that could take you further away from your goals.

In economics, the opportunity cost is the benefit that is given up when you make a choice between two alternatives. For example, money you spend to go to the movies cannot be used to buy a shirt you need for an interview. If you choose to spend your time in the morning hanging out with your friends, it means you give up that time to study for a test you have in the afternoon.

Lost opportunities can come from not making good choices, and it often happen when you say “yes” instead of “no” to something that takes your time, money, and energy away from better choices, or reinforces old patterns of behavior that tend to keep you in a rut.

You must resolve to use “no” as a strategic tool to advance your

position and make greater strides towards the goals you've set. Here are five ways you can use “no” to get immediate results.

1. Say “NO” to relationships that disempower you, or cause you to feel worse about yourself. Sometimes a person's biggest challenge comes from being in a debilitating relationship that drains one's emotional, physical, and psychological energy. The way you deal with your relationships makes a huge impact on your ability to consistently perform at high levels. Identify those relationships that are fulfilling and empower you towards your goals, and spend more time with those people. Also pinpoint those energy-draining people in your life that you will commit to say “no” to, and either limit or eliminate them from your life.

2. Say “NO” to Web sites, movies, or TV programs that waste your time? These can be huge time robbers that keep you from pursuing more productive opportunities. Even in a home that moderately watches TV, it's incredible how many hours are spent in front of the one-eyed monster. Web sites are like vampires that suck your productive time, and once lost, can never be returned. Limit your time on the Internet to sites that are productive. Watch movies and TV shows that are fulfilling, and say “no” to all the others.

3. Say “NO” to foods and drinks that are addictive or create health problems. Your body should be treated like a high-performance vehicle that can be called upon at anytime to go into action. Be aware of your nutritional intake so that you can feed your magnificent body the foods and fluids that will help you to physically perform at your peak. Say “no” to any food, drink, or drug that compromises your energy levels or deadens your senses.

4. Say “NO” to spending your money frivolously. Money provides you with greater choices and possibilities if it is managed well. Money that is saved can become your servant; however, spending

By **RIK and JANEL VILLEGAS**
Special to the Tribune

Rik is a business instructor at NMC and Janel is a partner with BizResults, LLC (www.bizresults.org). They can be contacted at biz_results@yahoo.com.



yourself into debt makes money your master. Every dollar you spend should be thought of as an investment toward your future. Begin saving your money for things that will give you long-term value. Ask yourself what you can say “no” to so you will have the money you need when the right opportunity comes along.

5. Say “NO” to things that lower your standards. Don't compromise your integrity for short-term gain. Identify the standards you want to measure your life by and say “no” when someone tries to drag you down to their level. Have the courage to say “no, I can't” if something violates your convictions, beliefs, or standards of conduct.

Simply put, say “no” to any activity that does not advance you forward toward the accomplishment of your goals and the ideal vision you have for yourself. Use “no” to liberate yourself from people, projects, and circumstances that keep you chained down to behaviors, thoughts, and feelings of helplessness. As you say “no” to more things that keep you from progressing, you will find it easier to say “yes” to those things that add to your quality of life and bring you greater happiness.

Letters to the Editor

The facts about accreditation and ACCJC/WASC

As chair and vice chair of the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, we are concerned about the uninformed and incorrect statements made by Mr. Stanley Torres in his letter to the editor, April 6, 2010. Mr. Torres' comments about the accreditation of Northern Marianas College and about the actions of the ACCJC and its president, Dr. Barbara Beno, are misleading and do a disservice to the college's students and to the people of the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands.

The ACCJC is a voluntary association of two-year degree-granting colleges. It is formally recognized by the U.S. Department of Education, which authorizes the ACCJC to evaluate and accredit eligible institutions in California, Hawaii and the Pacific Region. The ACCJC has developed, in collaboration with its member institutions and in some cases with the directive of the U.S. Department of Education and the U.S. Congress, policies and standards of accreditation that institutions must meet in order to be accredited. These standards and policies describe required institutional resources, practices and outcomes that are widely recognized as good practices.

Accreditation is important for students, employers and the public. It affirms that the educational programs, certificates and degrees, and credits offered by an institution are of sufficient quality that they can be trusted by students, transfer institutions, employers, and those who help to fund those degrees, and that the education provided by the institution meets standards of quality that are shared by other similar higher education institutions. Accreditation also helps to communicate to the public that the institution has integrity, is honest in its representations to

the public and students, and awards college credits and degrees based on the merit and performance of the students.

The U.S. government depends upon and trusts the quality assurance provided by ACCJC's accreditation. Accreditation by the ACCJC is used by the U.S. government to qualify NMC for access to federal student financial aid as well as to other important grants and contracts that directly assist students and the institution. All credible U.S. institutions participate in an accreditation agency that is recognized by the federal government, and accreditation is increasingly being used worldwide to distinguish legitimate higher educational institutions from fraudulent ones, or from degree mills. When institutions voluntarily agree to participate in accreditation, they also agree to meet all standards, and adhere to all policies, at all times. Standards and policies have grown more rigorous over the years as a result of the ACCJC's member institutions' own evolving educational practices and ideas about setting higher standards, as well as the result of government requirements for more rigorous standards.

The ACCJC conducts comprehensive evaluation visits every six years, but the assurance of continuous quality in the intervening years is the responsibility of the college through institutional good practices and self-evaluation. It is the institution's responsibility to know the ACCJC's policies and standards, and to implement practices that adhere to these requirements. It is the responsibility of the college leadership, including the president and the governing board, to provide continuous oversight of an institution's ongoing practices. This daily oversight is not the responsibility of the ACCJC or of its president.

The Commission is made up of five representatives of the public at large, and 14 individuals who are respected and accomplished

professionals at institutions in the ACCJC's membership. The commissioners are volunteers who serve for about six years; the ACCJC also has a full-time staff of professionals who are led by the Commission's president, Dr. Barbara Beno. The Commission's president, Dr. Beno, does not make decisions on the accreditation of institutions. It is the 19 individuals that serve as commissioners for the ACCJC who are the persons who make decisions on the accreditation status of institutions. The commissioners, through President Beno, convey their concerns with a college in Commission action letters, which Dr. Beno signs, and in conversations and presentations to institutions. While Dr. Beno is the official voice of the Commission, she represents the commissioners' concerns.

Mr. Torres' efforts to try to undermine the ACCJC's actions through personal attacks on Dr. Beno does a disservice to the students and the public of the CNMI, who should know that when NMC fails to meet ACCJC's standards or is not adhering to its policies, its educational quality is compromised. Accreditation is about the quality of an institution as judged by professional peers, by education professionals who work at other accredited colleges, and by members of the public trained to apply those standards, who apply established and published standards for the benefit of students and the public.

Lurelean Gaines

*Chair, ACCJC Director of Nursing
East Los Angeles College*

Michael Rota

*Vice chair, ACCJC Chancellor
Honolulu Community College*

‘Thank you for the support’

Over the past year, IT&E and other telecommunication providers in the region, including GTA and Docomo, submitted applications for a share of the more than \$7.2 billion in federal funding that was made available as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act stimulus package to create jobs and improve broadband infrastructure.

In August of 2009, IT&E submitted a grant proposal to the U.S. Department of Commerce's, National Telecommunications and Information Administration, NTIA. As part of its commitment to secure ARRA funding for the Marianas Region, IT&E invested thousands of hours to ensure that the company's submission would be comprehensive, detail oriented, and address the key objectives of the grant.

On Oct. 7, 2009, in response to NTIA's requirements, we also presented to a public local selection committee in the CNMI the technical aspects of our project as well as the benefits that our plan would offer the community and additional employment opportunities that would be available as a result of the grant. During the

public hearings conducted on Saipan, numerous individuals and institutions, and even grant competitors, provided oral and written testimony in support of IT&E's grant proposal to improve broadband infrastructure within the entire Marianas Region. Similarly, in Guam, IT&E solicited and received support for its grant proposal from various agencies, anchor institutions and the business community. As part of the grant evaluation, NTIA solicited public comments on all pending grant proposals, which were required to be submitted by Oct. 28, 2009. Several comments were received and evaluated by NTIA in response to IT&E's proposal.

On April 1, 2010, after several months of intense technical review, analysis, consideration of public support, and deliberation of which application merited stimulus funding, NTIA announced that the Marianas Region would receive its share of broadband stimulus funding by endorsing IT&E's application for an \$8 million grant from the Broadband Technologies Opportunity Program.

Over 1,800 grant proposals were submitted to NTIA for consid-

eration and IT&E is proud to be one of the 140 selected for funding and we are very pleased to provide the entire Marianas community with the opportunity to partake in the broadband stimulus grant funding which will benefit the overall economies of Guam and the CNMI by providing improved broadband services and creating direct employment opportunities. The success of this effort should be viewed positively and encourage local businesses and government institutions to avail themselves of federal grant opportunities as it benefits the entire Marianas community. The proposed plan will impact more than 30 communities within Guam (19) and Saipan (21) at various levels including economically disadvantaged communities, education, health, and other public agencies.

We would like to thank again the people of the Marianas for their continued support. *Si yu'os maase and salamat po.*






Larry Knecht

Executive vice president, IT&E

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
				
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 87° ▼ 76°	▲ 87° ▼ 76°	▲ 87° ▼ 76°	▲ 87° ▼ 76°	▲ 87° ▼ 76°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Showers	▲ 85 ▼ 77
Palau	Partly Cloudy	▲ 88 ▼ 77
Yap	Showers	▲ 87 ▼ 78
Chuuk	Showers	▲ 87 ▼ 80
Pohnpei	Showers	▲ 85 ▼ 80
Kosrae	Showers	▲ 85 ▼ 80
Majuro	Showers	▲ 87 ▼ 80

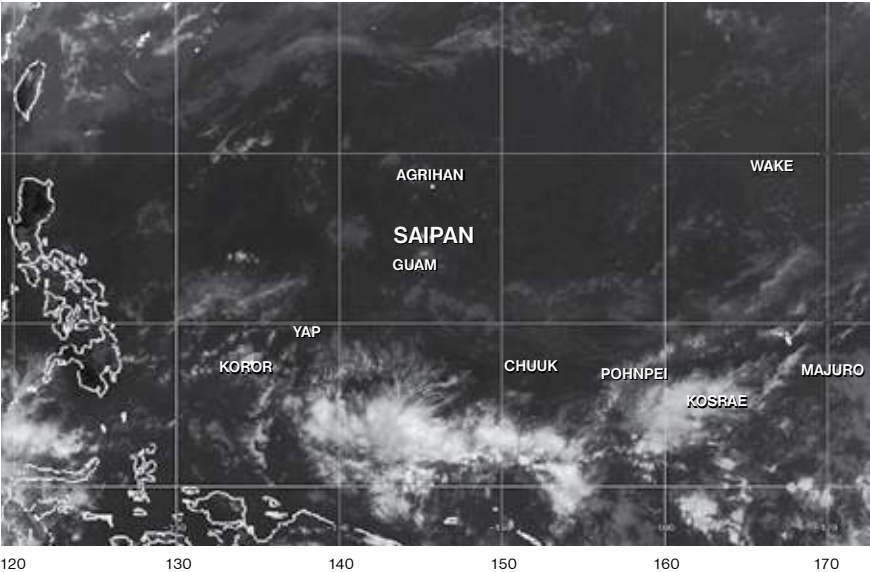
Around The Globe

Auckland	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 68 ▼ 62
Beijing	Showers	▲ 53 ▼ 41
Hong Kong	Showers	▲ 66 ▼ 58
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	▲ 80 ▼ 67
London	Partly Cloudy	▲ 60 ▼ 44
Los Angeles	Mostly Sunny	▲ 68 ▼ 52
Manila	Partly Cloudy	▲ 93 ▼ 82
Melbourne	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 69 ▼ 54
Miami	Windy	▲ 81 ▼ 69
New York	Sunny	▲ 67 ▼ 44
Osaka	Cloudy	▲ 53 ▼ 46
Paris	Mostly Sunny	▲ 62 ▼ 42
Pusan	Cloudy	▲ 55 ▼ 44
Rome	Partly Cloudy	▲ 65 ▼ 47
Salem	Showers	▲ 62 ▼ 42
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲ 56 ▼ 48
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	▲ 56 ▼ 39
Tokyo	Showers	▲ 51 ▼ 46
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	▲ 63 ▼ 47

Tides

Saipan Harbor				
2:12 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.8 Feet	
7:34 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet	
2:29 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet	
9:01 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet	

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14, 2010

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A weak cold front extends southwestward from 25N137E past 21N130E. Patchy cloudiness and light showers are found along and up to 250 miles northwest of this boundary. A weak near-equatorial trough extends from 2N132E to 1N145E to EQ147E. Low-level convergence north and east of the trough is producing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms south of Yap and Chuuk within 125 miles of a line from 5N138E to 4N142E to 3N152E To EQ154. Scattered showers are also found across Palau within 50 miles of a line from 8N134E to 6N137E. A surface trough extending from 1N158E to just south of Kosrae at 5N163E is producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms in the area bounded by 6N158E to 2N159E to 6N166E back to 6N158E. This includes Kosrae but is south of Pohnpei. Low-level convergence is producing cloudiness and scattered showers southeast of a line from 8N180 to 5N174E to EQ172 including Tarawa and Butaritari.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:03 AM	6:31 PM
Friday	6:03 AM	6:32 PM
Saturday	6:02 AM	6:32 PM
Sunday	6:01 AM	6:32 PM
Monday	6:01 AM	6:32 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	6:07 AM	7:09 PM
Friday	6:51 AM	8:04 PM
Saturday	7:40 AM	9:02 PM
Sunday	8:33 AM	10:01 PM
Monday	8:33 AM	10:01 PM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

CAMPUS BULLETIN

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number.

- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
- To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF APRIL 7, 2010

DEPARTURES	ARRIVALS
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM	GUAM-ROTA (ROP)
C09597 5:00am 5:30am 1, 5	C09598 6:30pm 7:00pm 4, 7
SAIPAN-GUAM	GUAM-SAIPAN
C09317 4:25am 5:15am Daily	C09316 2:45am 3:35am Daily
C09313 8:30am 9:20am Daily	C09596 7:00am 7:50am Daily
C09601 12:10pm 1:00pm 1, 4, 5, 7	C09600 10:05am 10:55am Daily
C09603 3:05pm 3:55pm Daily	C09602 1:40pm 2:30pm 1, 4, 5, 7
C09605 6:35pm 7:25pm Daily	C09604 5:10pm 6:00pm Daily
C09599 9:35pm 10:25pm Daily	C09606 8:10pm 9:00pm Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)	NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN
DL287 5:55am 8:35am Daily	DL290 10:00am 2:35pm Daily
DL297 3:35pm 6:15pm Daily	DL298 10:30am 3:05pm Daily
DL289 4:35pm 7:15pm Daily	DL288 8:40pm 1:15am+1 Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)	BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN
OZ608 3:20am 6:50am 1, 5	OZ607 9:00pm 2:20am+1 4, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)	SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN
OZ604 2:20am 6:10am 1	OZ605 9:00am 2:30pm 2, 4, 6, 7
OZ604 2:50am 6:30am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	OZ603 7:40pm 1:10am+1 7
OZ606 3:30pm 7:00pm 2, 4, 6, 7	OZ603 8:10pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)	SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN
FM844 2:50am 5:40am 2, 6	FM843 7:15pm 1:50am+1 1, 5
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)	GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN
CZ3008 3:30am 6:40am 2, 6	CZ3007 7:30pm 2:40am+1 1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)	MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN
OZ604/701 2:20am 11:25am 1 via ICN	OZ704/605 12:10am 2:30pm 2, 4, 6, 7
OZ604/701 2:50am 11:25am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	via ICN
OZ606/703 2:20am 11:00pm 1 via ICN	OZ706/607 3:35am 2:20am+1 4, 7 via PUS
OZ606/703 2:50am 11:00pm 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	C0890/9606 10:55am 9:00pm 6 via GUM
OZ608/705 3:20am 12:10am+1 1, 5 via PUS	OZ702/603 12:45pm 1:10am+1 7 via ICN
C09317/891 4:25am 9:45am 6 via GUM	OZ702/603 12:45pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
C09603/893 3:05pm 9:10pm 3, 5 via GUM-Palau	PR110/C09596 10:00pm 7:50am+1 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
C09603/933 3:05pm 8:40pm Daily via GUM	C0892/9596 10:10pm 7:50am+1 3, 5 via GUM-Palau
SAIPAN-HONG KONG	HONG KONG-SAIPAN
OZ604/721 2:20am 11:45am 1 via ICN	OZ724/605 12:30am 2:20pm 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
OZ604/721 2:50am 11:45am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ750/605 1:00am 2:20pm 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
OZ606/749 3:30pm 11:00pm 4, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ722/603 1:15pm 1:10am+1 7 via ICN
C09603/909 3:05am 9:30pm 1, 5 via GUM	OZ722/603 1:15pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
SAIPAN-TINIAN	Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**
FRE 200 9:00am 9:30am Daily	FRE 113 11:40am 11:50am Daily
FRE 200 9:50am 10:15am Daily	FRE 115 1:00pm 1:10pm Daily
FRE 300 4:00pm 4:30pm Daily	FRE 117 2:30pm 2:40pm Daily
FRE 300 4:50pm 5:25pm Daily	FRE 119 4:00pm 4:10pm Daily
FRE 400 6:00pm 6:30pm Daily	FRE 121 4:40pm 4:50pm Daily
FRE 400 6:45pm 7:15pm Daily	FRE 123 * 5:40pm 5:50pm Daily
FRE 101 6:45am 6:55am Daily	FRE 125 * 6:00pm 6:10pm Daily
FRE 103 7:30am 7:40am Daily	Guam-Rota
FRE 105 8:00am 8:10am Daily	FRE 100 7:00am 7:30am Daily
FRE 107 8:40am 8:50am Daily	Rota-Saipan
FRE 109* 9:10am 9:20am Daily	FRE 100 7:50am 8:20am Daily
FRE 111* 10:45am 10:55am Daily	Saipan-Rota
	FRE 200 9:00am 9:30am Daily
	Rota-Guam
	FRE 200 9:50am 10:15am Daily
	Guam-Rota
	FRE 300 4:00pm 4:30pm Daily
	Rota-Saipan
	FRE 300 4:50pm 5:25pm Daily
	Saipan-Rota
	FRE 400 6:00pm 6:30pm Daily
	Rota-Guam
	FRE 400 6:45pm 7:15pm Daily
	Saipan-Tinian
	FRE 101 6:45am 6:55am Daily
	FRE 103 7:30am 7:40am Daily
	FRE 105 8:00am 8:10am Daily
	FRE 107 8:40am 8:50am Daily
	FRE 109* 9:10am 9:20am Daily
	FRE 111* 10:45am 10:55am Daily

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; PR: Philippine Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota				FRE 113	11:40am	11:50am	Daily
FRE 100 7:00am 7:30am Daily				FRE 115	1:00pm	1:10pm	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 117	2:30pm	2:40pm	Daily
FRE 100 7:50am 8:20am Daily				FRE 119	4:00pm	4:10pm	Daily
Saipan-Rota				FRE 121	4:40pm	4:50pm	Daily
FRE 200 9:00am 9:30am Daily				FRE 123 *	5:40pm	5:50pm	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 125 *	6:00pm	6:10pm	Daily
FRE 200 9:50am 10:15am Daily				Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**			
Guam-Rota				FRE 102	7:05am	7:15am	Daily
FRE 300 4:00pm 4:30pm Daily				FRE 104	7:50am	8:00am	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 106**	8:20am	8:30am	Daily
FRE 300 4:50pm 5:25pm Daily				FRE 108**	9:00am	9:10am	Daily
Saipan-Rota				FRE 110	10:00am	10:10am	Daily
FRE 400 6:00pm 6:30pm Daily				FRE 112	11:05am	11:15am	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 114	12:00pm	12:10pm	Daily
FRE 400 6:45pm 7:15pm Daily				FRE 116	1:30pm	1:40pm	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 118	2:50pm	3:00pm	Daily
FRE 101 6:45am 6:55am Daily				FRE 120**	4:20pm	4:30pm	Daily
FRE 103 7:30am 7:40am Daily				FRE 122**	5:00pm	5:10pm	Daily
FRE 105 8:00am 8:10am Daily				FRE 124	6:05pm	6:15pm	Daily
FRE 107 8:40am 8:50am Daily				FRE 126	6:20pm	6:30pm	Daily
FRE 109* 9:10am 9:20am Daily							
FRE 111* 10:45am 10:55am Daily							



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Business

Toyota to temporarily halt sales of Lexus GX 460

WASHINGTON (AP)—Toyota Motor Corp. is temporarily halting sales of the 2010 Lexus GX 460 after Consumer Reports issued a rare “Don’t Buy” warning amid concerns the large SUV has handling problems that could cause it to roll over during sharp turns.

The Japanese automaker said Tuesday it had asked dealers to temporarily suspend sales of the SUV while it conducts its own tests on the GX 460.

“We are taking the situation with the GX 460 very seriously and are determined to identify and correct the issue Consumer Reports identified,” said Mark Templin, Lexus vice president and general manager.

The decision to stop selling the SUV is the latest blow to Toyota’s tarnished safety reputation after the recall of millions of cars and trucks over gas pedals that are too slow to retract or that can become stuck under floor mats. The GX 460 is not covered by the pedal recalls.

But it reflects Toyota’s attempt to respond more quickly to safety concerns after federal investigators accused the automaker of dragging its feet on recalls to address the faulty gas pedals. Toyota faces a \$16.4 million fine from the Transportation Department and has until



A red 2010 Lexus GX460 is seen at a dealership, with other Lexus vehicles behind it, in Portland, Maine, on Tuesday, April 13, 2010. AP

April 19 to decide whether to contest the penalty or accept it.

Toyota said about 6,000 GX 460s from the 2010 model year have been sold since the vehicle went on sale in late December

and an estimated 1,600 of the SUVs are at dealerships.

Consumer Reports is closely read by many car buyers before choosing a new car or truck. In January, it pulled its “recom-

mended” rating on eight vehicles recalled by the automaker due to faulty gas pedals.

The magazine said the Lexus problem occurred during tests on its track. In a standard test,

the driver approached a turn unusually fast, then released the accelerator pedal to simulate the response of an alarmed driver. This caused the rear of the vehicle to slide outward.

Fed boss has bittersweet message on recovery, jobs

WASHINGTON (AP)—Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke goes to Capitol Hill on Wednesday with a bittersweet message: The economic recovery is taking hold but won’t be strong enough to quickly drive down unemployment.

Bernanke’s out-of-the box thinking during the 2008 financial crisis helped prevent the Great Recession from turning into the second Great Depres-

sion. Now, however, the Fed chief faces the delicate task of making sure the recovery lasts well after massive government stimulus fades later this year.

To foster the recovery, Bernanke and other Fed officials have repeatedly pledged to hold interest rates at record lows for an “extended period.”

The hope is that low rates will entice people and businesses to spend more, generating enough economic activity to help keep the recovery going.

But Bernanke is likely to warn again that the pace of the recovery will be sluggish because Americans still face formidable headwinds: high unemployment, stagnant wages, weak home values, rising foreclosures and hard-to-get credit.

The Fed chief will offer his latest assessment on the economy when he appears before Congress’ Joint Economic Committee. He’ll be under more pressure than usual. It’s an



Bernanke

election year for lawmakers, whose constituents—including individuals and small businesses—are anxious about their financial prospects.

The economy started growing again in the third quarter of last year, after a record four straight losing quarters. And, more recently, the economy started to finally create jobs—162,000 of them in March, the most in three years. Nonetheless, the unemployment rate has been stuck at 9.7 percent for three straight months—close to its highest levels since the early 1980s.

China’s Hu rebuffs Obama on yuan

BEIJING (AP)—Chinese President Hu Jintao rebuffed U.S. calls to re-value China’s currency, telling President Barack Obama that any tinkering with the yuan will be done by Beijing in accord with domestic interests.

Hu defended China’s policy of pegging the yuan to the dollar at a Monday meeting with Obama in Washington and said changes to the exchange rate would not come from U.S. pressure.

“Detailed measures for re-

form should be considered in the context of the world’s economic situation, its development and changes as well as China’s economic conditions. It won’t be advanced by any foreign pressure,” Hu said in remarks released by China’s Foreign Ministry on Tuesday. He said reform would come based on China’s “own economic and social development needs.”

China’s currency has emerged as prominent fric-

tion in a relationship already troubled by disputes over trade, U.S. arms sales to Taiwan and Obama’s meeting with Tibet’s exiled leader, the Dalai Lama.

With high unemployment persisting in the U.S., Congress has been pressuring the Obama administration to punish China for the yuan-dollar peg—a tactic which economists say keeps the currency undervalued and gives Chinese exports an unfair advantage.

Twitter finally feathers its nest with advertising

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Is Twitter the next Google, the next Pets.com, or something in between? It may have begun answering that question Tuesday, with its long-awaited first step into advertising.

The startup is trying to make money without alienating the tens of millions of people who have gotten used to tweeting and following friends, celebrities and others without commercial interruptions. Just as it has through most of its four-year existence, Twitter is treading cautiously.

The new ads, called “promoted tweets,” will pop up

only on searches at Twitter’s Web site, and the messages will be limited to a small group of test marketers including Virgin America, Best Buy Co., Sony Pictures and Starbucks Corp. Fewer than 10 percent of Twitter’s users were expected to see the ads Tuesday, but the messages should start appearing on all relevant searches within the next few days.

One promoted tweet from Starbucks was getting retweeted heavily, thanks to its free tax-day offer: “On 4/15 bring in a reusable tumbler and we’ll fill it with brewed coffee for free. Let’s all

switch from paper cups.”

The move heralds a turning point for Twitter, which has held off on selling ads even as its widening audience turned it into an obvious marketing magnet and investors poured \$155 million into the San Francisco company. The last cash infusion seven months ago valued privately held Twitter at about \$1 billion, even though its only significant revenue had come from giving Google Inc. and Microsoft Corp. better access to its service. The technology powerhouses paid Twitter an undisclosed amount for that right.

STOCK Portfolio

ASIAN MARKETS

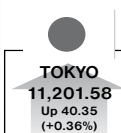


AUSTRALIA
5,016.300
Up 37.900
(+0.76%)



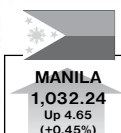
HONG KONG
22,089.83
Down 13.70
(-0.06%)

JAKARTA
2,889.1919
Up 4.492
(+0.16%)



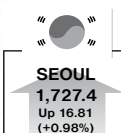
TOKYO
11,201.58
Up 40.35
(+0.36%)

K. LUMPUR
1,336.16
Up 1.64
(+0.12%)



MANILA
1,032.24
Up 4.65
(+0.45%)

SINGAPORE
3,003.70
Up 32.10
(+1.08%)



SEOUL
1,727.4
Up 16.81
(+0.98%)

BANGKOK
760.90
Down 28.76
(-3.64%)

LEADING INDICATORS

DOW
11,019.42
+13.45

NASDAQ
2,465.99
+8.12

S&P
1,197.30
0.00

MONEY MARKET

Australian Dollar	1.0731
British Pound	0.6486
Canadian Dollar	0.9994
Chinese Renmbi	6.826
Euro	0.7323
Hong Kong Dollar	7.7597
Indian Rupee	44.474
Indonesian Rupiah	9008.5
Japanese Yen	93.271
Malaysian Ringgit	3.203
New Zealand Dollar	1.4049
Philippine Peso	44.515
Singapore Dollar	1.3779
South Korean Won	1115.15
Swiss Franc	1.0513
Taiwan Dollar	31.448
Thailand Baht	32.26

In U.S. dollar terms

Source: Associated Press

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Asian markets higher early after Wall Street gains

TOKYO (AP)—Stocks mostly rose in Asia during early trade Wednesday after Wall Street extended gains on hopes that a strong earnings season would signal an economic recovery. Japan’s benchmark Nikkei 225 stock average was up 0.3 percent to 11,195.34. Many Japanese chip-related concerns were also up strongly, after Intel Corp. posted strong first-quarter results earlier in New York, Tokyo Electron Ltd., which makes equipment to produce semiconductors, gained 4.7 percent to 6,670 yen, while Advantest Corp. gained 2.8 percent. Canon Inc. and Nikon Corp., with large chip-making equipment divisions, were also among the top gainers for the day.

Surprise in Intel 1Q: Corporate PC spending up

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Intel Corp. executives say the chip maker’s first-quarter results revealed a surprising and encouraging trend: Companies are finally starting to upgrade their workers’ laptops. That’s important because corporate spending on personal computers has been one of the last parts of the technology world to thaw

out as companies unlock budgets frozen during the recession. But there’s a catch, according to Intel CEO Paul Otellini: Many companies are buying PCs again because it’s simply less expensive than hanging on to older machines that need frequent maintenance. He said many customers were buying computers with older Intel chips, which are less profitable for the company than the newer products.

FDIC weighs changes in its fees for big banks

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. on Tuesday proposed changes to the way it determines how much it charges big banks to insure their deposits, with the aim of having large, higher-risk institutions pay bigger premiums. Large financial institutions “pose unique and concentrated risks” to the deposit insurance fund, something that came to the fore during the financial crisis, the agency said in a news release. “Events during the past two years have made clear the need for improvement in how well and how quickly we recognize and charge for risk,” FDIC Chairman Sheila Bair said in a statement. “This proposal is a significant improvement to how we do that.”

Nation

Doctor shortage? 28 states may expand nurses' role

CHICAGO (AP)—A nurse may soon be your doctor. With a looming shortage of primary care doctors, 28 states are considering expanding the authority of nurse practitioners. These nurses with advanced degrees want the right to practice without a doctor's watchful eye and to prescribe narcotics. And if they hold a doctorate, they want to be called "Doctor."

For years, nurse practitioners have been playing a bigger role in the nation's health care, especially in regions with few doctors. With 32 million more Americans gaining health insurance within a few years, the health care overhaul is putting more money into nurse-managed clinics.

Those newly insured patients will be looking for doctors and may find nurses instead.

The medical establishment is fighting to protect turf. In some statehouses, doctors have shown up in white coats to testify against nurse practitioner bills. The American Medical Association, which supported the national health care overhaul, says a doctor shortage is no reason to put nurses in charge and endanger patients.

Nurse practitioners argue there's no danger. They say they're highly trained and as skilled as doctors at diagnosing illness during office visits. They know when to refer the sickest patients to doctor specialists. Plus, they spend more time with patients and charge less.

"We're constantly having to prove



In this March 22, 2010 photo, Amanda Cockrell, 32, left, a nurse practitioner at Rush Lifetime Medical Associates examines Shanequa Reeves, 18, in Chicago.

ourselves," said Chicago nurse practitioner Amanda Cockrell, 32, who tells patients she's just like a doctor "except for the pay."

On top of four years in nursing

school, Cockrell spent another three years in a nurse practitioner program, much of it working with patients. Doctors generally spend four years in undergraduate school, four years in medi-

cal school and an additional three in primary care residency training.

Medicare, which sets the pace for payments by private insurance, pays nurse practitioners 85 percent of what

it pays doctors. An office visit for a Medicare patient in Chicago, for example, pays a doctor about \$70 and a nurse practitioner about \$60.

The health care overhaul law gave nurse midwives, a type of advanced practice nurse, a Medicare raise to 100 percent of what obstetrician-gynecologists make—and that may be just the beginning.

States regulate nurse practitioners and laws vary on what they are permitted to do:

■ In Florida and Alabama, for instance, nurse practitioners are barred from prescribing controlled substances.

■ In Washington, nurse practitioners can recommend medical marijuana to their patients when a new law takes effect in June.

■ In Montana, nurse practitioners don't need a doctor involved with their practice in any way.

■ Many other states put doctors in charge of nurse practitioners or require collaborative agreements signed by a doctor.

■ In some states, nurse practitioners with a doctorate in nursing practice can't use the title "Dr." Most states allow it.

The AMA argues the title "Dr." creates confusion. Nurse practitioners say patients aren't confused by veterinarians calling themselves "Dr." Or chiropractors. Or dentists. So why, they ask, would patients be confused by a nurse using the title?

Petition drive urges Russia not to halt adoptions

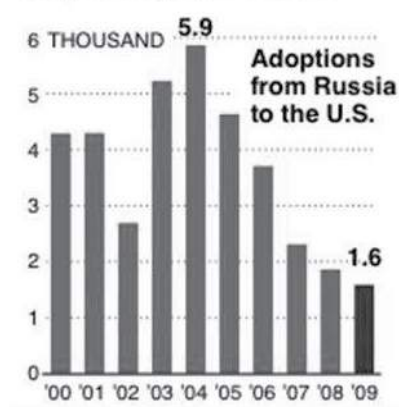
NEW YORK (AP)—Worried over a threatened freeze of adoptions from Russia, thousands of American adoption advocates are petitioning leaders of the two nations to prevent such a step even as they decry a Tennessee woman returning her adopted son to Russia.

Poignant pleas from would-be adoptive parents were included in the petition to President Barack Obama and his Russian counterpart, Dmitri Medvedev, that was being coordinated Tuesday by the Joint Council on International Children's Services. The council, which represents many U.S. agencies engaged in international adoption, estimates there are about 3,000 pending U.S. applications for adoptions from Russia.

"My husband and I have been working toward a Russian adoption for two years now," wrote Susan Busek, a teacher from Loveland, Colo. "Please know that there are many would-be parents like us, who want only the opportunity to be par-

Russian adoptions

Russia has worked to reduce the number of kids in its orphanages, resulting in fewer adoptions by U.S. residents.



SOURCE: U.S. State Department AP

ents and give our love."

The petition, which quickly gathered more than 11,000 electronic

signatures, is a response to the outcry in Russia over the incident last week in which a nurse from Tennessee arranged to send her 7-year-old adoptive son back to Moscow alone on a plane, asserting that the boy had severe psychological problems.

Russia's foreign minister, Sergey Lavrov, and its children's rights ombudsman, Pavel Astakhov, have suggested that Russia suspend all U.S. adoptions until Moscow and Washington sign a bilateral adoption agreement.

"How can we prosecute a person who abused the rights of a Russian child abroad?" Astakhov said in a televised interview. "If there was an adoption treaty in place, we would have legal means to protect Russian children abroad."

Lavrov called the return of the boy, Artyom Savelyev, "the last straw" after a string of other cases in which adopted Russian children were mistreated.

Huckabee likens gay marriage to incest, polygamy

WASHINGTON (AP)—Mike Huckabee, a possible Republican presidential candidate in 2012, says the effort to allow gays and lesbians to marry is comparable to legalizing incest, polygamy and drug use.

Huckabee also told college journalists last week that gay couples should not be permitted to adopt. "Children are not puppies," he said.

Huckabee visited The College of New Jersey in Ewing, N.J., last Wednesday to speak to the Student Government Association. He also was interviewed by a campus news magazine, The Perspective, which published an article on Friday.

Huckabee told the interviewer that not every group's interests deserve to be accommodated, if their lifestyle is outside of what he called "the ideal."

"That would be like saying, well

there's there are a lot of people who like to use drugs so let's go ahead and accommodate those who want to use drugs. There are some people who believe in incest, so we should accommodate them. There are people who believe in polygamy, should we accommodate them?" he said,

according to a transcript of the interview.

The 2008 presidential hopeful and former Arkansas governor also said that deciding which lifestyles should be accommodated and which ones should not creates a slippery slope.

"Why do you get to choose

that two men are OK but one man and three women aren't OK?" he asked.

Huckabee added that his goal isn't to tell others how to live, but that the burden of proving that a gay marriage can be successful rests with the activists in favor of changing the law.



Huckabee

ACROSS THE NATION

Missing 11-year-old girl found in central Fla.

WINTER SPRINGS, Fla. (AP)—A missing 11-year-old central Florida girl with Asperger syndrome was found alive on Tuesday, four days after she disappeared into an alligator-infested swamp a half-mile from her suburban home. Nadia Bloom was taken to a hospital in nearby Longwood, Fla., where she will be evaluated and treated for dehydration and insect bites, said Winter Springs Police Chief Kevin Brunelle.

"If I never believed in miracles, I sure do now," Brunelle said during an afternoon news conference. Brunelle said Nadia told rescuers two things: "I'm glad you guys found me" and "I can't believe you guys rescued me."

Body pulled from fire-ravaged Manhattan building

NEW YORK (AP)—An elderly man's body has been pulled from the wreckage of a fire that tore through a building

in New York's Chinatown. The man had been reported missing after Sunday night's fire that injured more than 30 people and left 200 temporarily homeless. His body found Monday night. Officials say two buildings will have to be demolished. A two-block stretch will also be closed, possibly for weeks, and 20 to 30 businesses temporarily shuttered. City records show the building had several violations, including blocked passageways. The New York Times says the building was missing

smoke detectors and that tenants had complained it was riddled with mold and exposed wiring.

Ohio man found guilty of putting children in trash

DAYTON, Ohio (AP)—A prosecutor's assistant says an Ohio man accused of putting two children in a trash bin has been found guilty of attempted murder and other counts. An executive assistant to Montgomery County Prosecutor Mathias Heck Jr. said Tuesday that Tommie

Johnson Jr. pleaded no contest Monday to attempted murder, kidnapping, domestic violence and tampering with evidence. Authorities say Johnson put the 8-month-old boy and 2-year-old girl in the trash after a dispute with their mother. Police say two electricians rescued the thirsty, hungry children July 27 after they had been in the bin about 13 hours. The assistant says a judge found the 39-year-old Johnson guilty on all counts and will sentence him April 28.

Asia

Strong quake in western China's Qinghai kills 300

ASIAN BRIEFS

Cyclone kills 31 people in eastern India

CALCUTTA, India (AP)—A cyclone demolished thousands of mud huts and uprooted trees in several villages in eastern India, killing at least 31 people, an official said Wednesday. Sri Kumar Mukherjee, the civil defense minister, said the cyclone struck Tuesday night in North Dinajpur district of West Bengal state, snapping telephone and electricity lines in the area. Mukherjee also said hundreds of people suffered injuries in the region, nearly 315 miles (500 kilometers) northeast of Calcutta, the capital of West Bengal state. The worst-hit villages were Hematabad, Raiganj and Kiran Dighi, where police and rescue have recovered 31 bodies, Mukherjee told The Associated Press. The cyclone demolished nearly 50,000 mud huts, he said.

Police: NZ man at strip club leaves baby in car

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP)—Police arrested a man for leaving his 1-year-old baby in a car unattended during the early hours while he watched strippers at a nightclub in New Zealand's capital, and have placed the boy in welfare agency care. A passer-by called police after seeing the sleeping baby in a car parked near the Mermaid Strip Club in Wellington about 3 a.m. Tuesday. Police took the baby to hospital and arrested the father, 42, after he was located in the club, Inspector Simon Perry said. The man faces a charge of leaving a child under 14 without reasonable supervision, Perry said. The Child, Youth and Family agency has custody of the baby for five days while it works with the baby's relatives to decide on his future, agency deputy chief executive Ray Smith said.

Two men arrested in China snake attack

GUANGZHOU, China (AP)—Police say in southern China say they have arrested two brothers suspected of releasing poisonous snakes to seek revenge in a dispute with a local leader. Guangzhou city police said Wednesday that brothers Guo Gongwei and Guo Gongtian bought the short-tail pit vipers at a market, where they're sold as food and medicine. Southern Metropolis Daily newspaper reported 500 snakes were released near the home of the village leader, identified only by the surname Song, with whom the brothers were feuding. Police said the snakes didn't hurt anyone. Authorities say the brothers—arrested Monday and charged with endangering public security—confessed that they were seeking revenge. Details of the feud weren't released.

BEIJING (AP)—A series of strong earthquakes struck China's western Qinghai province Wednesday, killing at least 300 people, injuring thousands and burying many others under toppled houses in a mountainous rural area, officials and state media said.

The U.S. Geological Survey said a magnitude 6.9 temblor struck an area in southern Qinghai, near Tibet, on Wednesday morning and was followed by several aftershocks.

The main quake sent residents fleeing as it toppled houses made of mud and wood, said Karsum Nyima, the Yushu county television station's deputy head of news, speaking by phone with broadcaster CCTV.

"In a flash, the houses went down. It was a terrible earthquake," he said. "In a small park, there is a Buddhist tower and the top of the tower fell off. ... Everybody is out on the streets, standing in front of their houses, trying to find their family members."

The quake hit the county of Yushu, a Tibetan area in Qinghai's south, said the China Earthquake Networks Center, which measured the quake's magnitude



In this photo taken by a mobile phone, the rubble of destroyed houses fill the street after an earthquake hit the Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture of Yushu, northwest China's Qinghai province Wednesday, April 14, 2010.

at 7.1. A local government Web site put the county's population in 2005 at 89,300, a community of mostly herders and farmers.

State broadcaster CCTV said the death toll had risen to about 300, with an additional 8,000

people injured.

The China Earthquake Administration said phone lines were down, hindering rescue efforts, while workers were racing to release water from a reservoir where a crack had

formed after the quake.

In Jiegu, a township near the epicenter, more than 85 percent of houses had collapsed, while large cracks have appeared on buildings still standing, the official Xinhua News Agency cited

Obama: China joining UN talks on Iran sanctions

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama, wrapping up a 47-nation nuclear security summit, said Tuesday he is confident China will join other nations in pressing for tough new sanctions on Iran for continuing to defy the international community in seeking nuclear weapons. "Words have to mean something. There have to be some consequences," Obama told reporters at a news conference at the conclusion of the two-day gathering.

He was asked about China's reluctance in the past to join other major nations in backing tough sanctions.

Chinese President Hu Jintao on Tuesday gave a speech to the group calling for "effective" measures to safeguard

nuclear weapons and materials but stopped short of mentioning Iran's program.

Hu and Obama met for 90 minutes on Monday after which U.S. officials said the two agreed to tell their aides to work on a tough new sanctions program. However, a Chinese spokesman did not mention sanctions in his description of the meeting.

China imports oil from Iran and in the past had been reluctant to endanger that supply line.

"The Chinese are obviously concerned about what harm this might have on the economy generally," Obama said. "Iran is an oil-producing state. ... A lot of countries around the world have trade relationships with Iran and we're mindful of that."

But Obama said Hu had as-

sured him that China would participate in drafting sessions at the United Nations on a new tough sanctions regime.

"I think that we have a strong number of countries on the Security Council who believe this is the right thing to do," Obama said. "But I think these negotiations can be difficult," he added.

China is one of five permanent members of the Security Council with veto powers, along with the U.S., Russia, Britain and France.

Obama said that the new sanctions would make it easier to isolate Iran, as the global community had done for North Korea as it continued to develop nuclear weapons.

Obama said Pyongyang had

chosen a path of "severe isolation," which has hurt the North Korean people. Obama said he hoped sanctions would add pressure on North Korea's leaders to return to the six-party talks.

But Obama said he believes the U.S. approach would make it more likely for North Korea to alter its behavior rather than allowing the communist nation to operate its nuclear program without consequences—and could have a similar impact in Iran.

"Sanctions," Obama acknowledged, "aren't a magic wand."

"What sanctions do accomplish is hopefully to change the calculus of a country like Iran so that they see that there are more costs and fewer benefits to pursuing a nuclear weapons program," he said.

Zhuohuaxia, a local publicity official, as saying.

"The streets in Jiegu are thronged with panic and full of injured people, with many of them bleeding from their injuries," he said.

There were also students buried under the debris of a collapsed vocational school, Zhuohuaxia said.

State television showed footage of paramilitary police using shovels to dig around a house with a collapsed wooden roof. A local military official, Shi Huajie, told state broadcaster CCTV rescuers were working with limited equipment.

"The difficulty we face is that we don't have any excavators. Many of the people have been buried and our soldiers are trying to pull them out with human labor," Shi said. "It is very difficult to save people with our bare hands."

Five thousand tents and 100,000 thick, cotton coats and heavy blankets were being sent to help survivors cope with strong winds and near-freezing temperatures of around 43 degrees Fahrenheit (6 degrees C), the Qinghai provincial government said in a statement.

Thai protesters to consolidate forces in Bangkok

BANGKOK (AP)—Anti-government protesters said they will consolidate their forces in the commercial heart of the Thai capital after canceling a march Wednesday on a military camp where the prime minister has sheltered during their month-old campaign to oust him.

A failed attempt by security forces to flush thousands of so-called "Red Shirt" protesters out of their Bangkok encampments over the weekend ended with bloody street battles leaving 21 killed and hundreds wounded in Thailand's worst political violence in nearly two decades.

Deputy Prime Minister Suthep Thaugsuban said arrest warrants were out for "terrorists" linked to the Red Shirts who had fired assault rifles and grenade launchers during the savage, chaotic confrontation Saturday, the Thai-language newspaper Matichon said.

He said some of them were working as guards at makeshift stages set up by the protesters and that the protest leaders knew of their "terrorist acts."

Both sides blame each other for the killings, with the government insisting its troops only fired over the heads of demonstrators. Reporters saw and photographed weapons in the hands of some in the clashes who appeared to be on the side of the protesters.

18-year-old Afghan woman slain in campaign of fear

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan (AP)—A gunman lying in wait shot and killed an 18-year-old woman as she left her job at a U.S.-based development company Tuesday, casting a spotlight on a stepped-up campaign of Taliban intimidation against women in this southern city where U.S. troops plan a major operation in the coming weeks.

Although there was no claim of responsibility and police said the motive for the attack was unclear, Taliban militants have been particularly harsh with women who work for foreign organizations or attend school. Bands of thugs are increasingly harassing women who want jobs, education and their own style of clothing,



Afghan women walk in downtown Kandahar city, south of Kabul, Afghanistan, Tuesday, April 13, 2010.

women and aid workers say.

In Tuesday's attack, the gunman emerged from a hiding place and shot the woman,

whose first name was Hossai, after she stepped out of her office building, said deputy police chief Fazle Ahmed Shehzad.

Hossai died at the hospital, and the assailant escaped.

Hossai worked for Development Alternatives, Inc., a Washington-based global consulting firm that "provides social and economic development solutions to business, government, and civil society in developing and transitioning countries," according to its Web site.

Eight years after the U.S.-led invasion ousted the Taliban from power, fear again dominates the lives of many young women and girls in the violent south, the stronghold of a revived Islamist insurgency that curbed women's rights when it ruled most of the country until the 2001 U.S.-led invasion.

World

22,700 killed in drug violence in Mexico since '06

MEXICO CITY (AP)—More than 22,700 people have been killed in Mexico's drug war since a U.S.-backed military crackdown on cartels began more than three years ago, according to a government report.

The report said 2009 was the deadliest year in the drug war, with 9,635 people killed in violence tied to organized crime. That compares to 2,837 in 2007, the first year of President Felipe Calderon's military-led offensive.

Gang violence has continued surging this year, with 3,365 people killed between January and March, according to the confidential report sent to lawmakers Monday. The Associated Press had access to the report Tuesday.

In the latest violence, the bodies of six men were dumped on the side of a highway in Cuernavaca, a city near Mexico's capital where authorities say a battle has erupted for leadership of the Beltran Leyva cartel, whose leader was killed in a shootout with marines in December. Police said the six men were tortured, then each shot once in the head.

In northern state of Tamaulipas, which borders Texas, gunmen burst into a bar and killed

eight people Monday night, the state government said. Five died inside the bar in the town of Los Guerra and three were chased down and killed as they tried to flee in car.

Tamaulipas has become the newest front in Mexico's drug war amid a split between the Gulf cartel and its former gang of hit men, the Zetas.

In the southern state of Guer-

rero, the bodies of two men were thrown from a bridge into a 500-foot (525-meter) deep canyon. State police said the men were found Monday with their hands and feet tied and their heads wrapped in packing tape. Tape around the head—a tactic often used by drug cartels—usually kills a victim quickly by suffocation.

Calderon's U.S.-backed deployment of more than 40,000 soldiers and federal police across the country has come under increasing criticism from opposition politicians and drug trade experts, who argue the crackdown has led to human rights abuses and done little to stem the flow of narcotics to the U.S.

The government attributes the increase in violence to gangs lashing back at security forces and infighting among cartels whose leadership has been shaken by the arrest of top kingpins.

More than 121,000 drug suspects have been detained since 2006, the report said. It gave no figure for how many of those had been convicted.

The report said more than half those arrested were from the Gulf and Sinaloa cartels, Mexico's two most powerful gangs. Some 27 percent were from the Gulf

cartel or the Zetas, two groups that Mexican and U.S. authorities say recently split. About 24 percent were tied to the Sinaloa cartel, led by Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman, Mexico's most-wanted drug lord.

Since Guzman escaped from prison 10 years ago, successive Mexican governments have faced accusations that his organization is not pursued as aggressively as other gangs. Calderon denies the charges.



Police forensic experts load into trucks the bodies of at least six men that were found dead in the city of Cuernavaca, Mexico, Tuesday April 13, 2010.

Argentina tries probing crimes of Franco's Spain

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP)—Argentine human rights groups are turning the tables on Spain, hoping to open a judicial probe of murders and disappearances committed during the Spanish Civil War and the long dictatorship of Gen. Francisco Franco.

Lawyers representing Argentine relatives of three Spaniards killed during the 1936-39 war will ask the federal courts here Wednesday to open an investigation, and hope to add many more cases in the months to come.

Such cross-border human rights probes have long been the specialty of Spain's crusading investigative judge Baltazar Garzon, whose case against Chilean Gen. Augusto Pinochet helped lead to the undoing of amnesties that had protected Latin America's dictators.

But Garzon himself now faces the prospect of a career-

ending judicial investigation for allegedly abusing his authority by opening an investigation into deaths and disappearances in Franco's Spain.

So Garzon's supporters now hope to launch the same investigation, citing the same principles of international law—from Buenos Aires.

"We have many hopes for this case," said Santiago Macias, vice president of Spain's Association for the Recuperation of Historic Memory, which helps Spaniards search common graves for anti-Franco victims of the civil war and dictatorship.

Attorney Carlos Slepoy, a specialist in human rights law, told The Associated Press the plaintiffs are invoking the principle of universal jurisdiction, which provides that genocide and crimes against humanity "can be prosecuted by the courts of any country."

Poland mourns as president and wife lie in state

WARSAW, Poland (AP)—Thousands of grieving mourners tossed flowers on a slow-moving hearse and joined an enormous viewing line at the Presidential Palace to pay their respects Tuesday to Polish President Lech Kaczynski and his wife as their bodies lay in state.

Kaczynski and his wife, Maria Kaczynska, were among 96 people killed Saturday in a plane crash in western Russia. Investigators are pointing to human error as the cause.

Mourners knelt, prayed and cried before the first couple's coffins in the palace's Columned Hall, where the president appointed and dismissed governments. The line to get in swelled to over half a mile (1 kilometer).

"We will wait as long as it takes," said Alicja Marszalek, a retired telephone operator who

was waiting with a friend. "We want to pay homage to them because they were wonderful people. He was a modest man, very well educated, intelligent and kind."

Polish television broadcast live images of mourners walking by the closed coffins. Many were families with children, parents and grandparents. A pair of soldiers flanked each coffin, standing crisp and still.

Earlier Tuesday, Kaczynska's body was greeted with tears and tulips after being flown home from Russia. Officials announced that the first couple would be buried Sunday after a state funeral at Krakow's Wawel Cathedral.

Krakow Archbishop Stanislaw Dziwisz said the funeral rites would begin at 2 p.m. (1200 GMT) Sunday with a



People mourn as the as the coffin of Maria Kaczynska, wife of Polish President Lech Kaczynski, arrives at the Presidential palace in Warsaw, Tuesday, April 13, 2010.

Mass at St. Mary's Basilica. The bodies will then be carried in a funeral procession across the Old Town to the 1,000-year-old Wawel Cathedral—the main

burial site of Polish monarchs since the 14th century and more recent heroes including the 20th century Polish statesman and military leader Jozef Pilsudski.

Vatican goes into damage control mode over abuse

VATICAN CITY (AP)—The Vatican has gone into full-fledged damage control mode in the priest sex abuse scandal ahead of the pope's first foreign trip since it erupted. Officials are promising surprising new initiatives. The pope's personal secretary is speaking out. And bishops around the world are being told to report abuse cases to the police.

The revamped strategy comes as the Vatican tries to stem the

damage from weeks of revelations about priests who raped and molested children—and the church officials who kept it quiet—before the pontiff's visit to Malta this weekend. Abuse victims on that majority Roman Catholic Mediterranean island are seeking a papal audience and apology.

Vatican spokesman the Rev. Federico Lombardi declined Tuesday to confirm whether Benedict would meet with

victims, but didn't rule it out. The pope is prepared to meet with victims, Lombardi said, but "in a climate of meditation and reflection, not under media pressures."

Before previous foreign trips, Lombardi has declined to confirm meetings with abuse victims until after they were held.

The Vatican has been reeling for weeks since reports surfaced that Benedict—when known as Joseph Ratzinger

and served as archbishop in Munich from 1977-82—approved therapy for a pedophile priest who was allowed to do pastoral work. The priest was later convicted of molesting boys. Since then, hundreds of people have come forward with abuse accusations in Germany and elsewhere in Europe, and old cases with connections to Rome and the pope himself have come to light in the United States.

WORLD BRIEFS

Michelle Obama visits earthquake-ravaged Haiti

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP)—First lady Michelle Obama made a surprise visit Tuesday to the ruins of the Haitian capital, a high-profile reminder that hundreds of thousands remain in desperate straits three months after the earthquake. The first lady and Jill Biden, wife of Vice President Joe Biden, took a helicopter tour of Port-au-Prince, where many people are still homeless, before landing at the destroyed national palace to meet President Rene Preval. They later talked with students whose lives have been upended by the disaster and walked along a vast, squalid encampment of families living under bed sheets and tents. "It's powerful," Obama told reporters. "The devastation is definitely powerful."

Swede who flew jet with no license gets light fine

OUDE MEER, Netherlands (AP)—A Swedish man who flew passenger jets in countries around Europe for more than a decade without a license was let off with a light fine by a Dutch court on Tuesday. A prosecutor paid tribute in court to his fly-

ing skills. The court convicted Thomas Salme, 41, of flying without a license and fined him 2,000 euros (\$2,700), about a third of the maximum penalty. Presiding Judge Mathieu Kronenberg rejected prosecution demands for a suspended three-month jail sentence and a larger fine on forgery charges, saying the charge wasn't worded right. Prosecutor Bote ter Steege said the case was unprecedented in the Netherlands, but also praised Salme's piloting ability.

Demjanjuk casts himself as a victim of Hitler

MUNICH (AP)—Retired Ohio autoworker John Demjanjuk told a German court Tuesday he was a victim of the Nazis, using his first major statement since his trial began to sharply criticize the country that started World War II for prosecuting him. Demjanjuk, who turned 90 earlier this month, is standing trial on 27,900 counts of being an accessory to murder on allegations he was a guard at the Sobibor camp in occupied Poland. He denies ever being at any camp, claiming he is the victim of mistaken identity. "I am again and again an innocent victim of the Germans," he told the court in a statement he signed and that was read aloud by his attorney.

Focus

It wasn't his first tour in Iraq, but his second and third when Joe Callan began wondering how long his luck would last—how many more months he could swerve around bombs buried in the dirt and duck mortars raining from the skies.

It was only natural, considering the horrors he'd seen: One buddy killed when a mortar engulfed his tent in flames. A fresh-faced Marine sniper dead (also a mortar) on his first day in Iraq. A 9-year-old Iraqi boy, blood trickling from his head, after he was mistakenly shot by U.S. troops. An Iraqi grandmother collapsing from a heart attack after her home was searched (she later died).

Three tours in four years and Callan wanted out. Out of Iraq, out of the Marines.

"I became numb," he says. "None of it mattered. I just wanted to be home. And that became more intense each time." When Callan did return to New Mexico, he couldn't sleep. He drank heavily. He had a short fuse. "I knew," he now says, "I was different. But I didn't think it was going to be that bad."

Maj. Jeff Hall's world imploded after his second tour in Iraq.

Overwhelmed with guilt and rage, the 18-year Army veteran became so depressed that one day he lay on the ground and pointed a pistol at his head. The only reason he didn't kill himself, he says, is he didn't want his two daughters to discover him after school. "I couldn't do that to my kids," he says. "I had seen people with their heads blown off."

But the war had pushed Hall to the brink. "I wanted everything to stop," he says. "I had no peace at all."

No peace—on the battlefields of Iraq and Afghanistan, or in the minds of men and women who fought there. Callan and Hall are among hundreds of thousands of U.S. troops who've served multiple tours; they're also among the tens of thousands diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder.

That is not a coincidence.

With two long wars—Afghanistan is in its ninth year and Iraq just entered its eighth—the U.S. military finds itself straining to maintain a steady flow of troops. More than 2 million men and women have been deployed to serve in both conflicts, and more than 40 percent of them have served at least two tours, according to military records.

Nearly 300,000 troops have served three, four or more times. And, records show, more than half of those currently at war are at least on their second tour. (The vast majority of deployments last more than six months.)

For these men and women, life becomes a revolving door of war, home, then back to combat—sometimes within months—as they face the same dangers, the same stresses and the same agonizing separation from family. Some soldiers are gone so often, they're more comfortable being away.

"You feel as if Iraq is your home, you feel that's where you ought to be," says Justin Taylor, who says he suffered a mental collapse after his third deployment to Iraq.

Multiple tours, according to several studies, have been linked to stress, anxiety and PTSD, which is often marked by nightmares, flashbacks, angry outbursts, insomnia and social withdrawal.

"It's common sense," says Dr. Judith Broder, founder of The Soldiers Project, which provides free, confidential counseling to returning troops and their families. "The more deployments there are, the greater the danger not just of combat stress but depression. ... Virtually everyone comes back with some kind of sleep disorder. Many people also feel alienated and isolated from their family."

After two Iraq stints 10 months apart, Maj. Jeff Hall wanted to be left alone.

He felt he'd been a failure; he believed he hadn't helped the Iraqis or really accomplished anything. He urged his wife, Sheri, to take their two daughters and leave. She refused.

So Hall would take off by himself some days, hopping on his Harley and driving 1,000 miles to west Texas, the Oklahoma Panhandle—any place, just to get away. Other days he couldn't bear to go to his job at Fort Polk, La.

Looking back, Hall can pinpoint the day he realized something was terribly wrong. It was after his first tour, when his family was

having dinner at a restaurant and his daughter, Tami, then about 12, refused to touch her steak because sour cream had gotten on it. Hall began crying.

His family was stunned. So was he. "What's wrong with dad?" Tami asked. What Hall didn't reveal was his daughter's fussiness had dredged up memories of a very poor family in Iraq that would regularly pick up gas for cooking at a propane station he had guarded. Their two girls—close to his daughters' ages—were so emaciated their skin hung like loose cloth.



AP
In this March 19, 2010 photo, Ryan McNabb, center, watches his 2-year-old son Ayden, left, kiss his 9-month-old brother Payton, at McNabb's childhood home where they live with his parents in Winthrop Harbor, Ill. After two stints in Iraq, McNabb, now 29, works as an outreach coordinator for a Vet Center in suburban Chicago. He still is being treated for PTSD, and while Iraq is fresh in his memory, he's not eager to share war stories.

Revolving door of multiple tours linked to PTSD

By SHARON COHEN
AP NATIONAL WRITER

"I could just see the faces of the little girls," Hall says. "It kept recurring to me. It triggered a feeling of sadness and anger and all kind of emotions."

But suicidal thoughts didn't surface until after Hall's second deployment, which was even bloodier and more aimless than the first. "It was like we were driving around until we got blown up," he says. Roadside bombs—called improvised explosive devices—had become so common that when Hall studied a map of where they'd been found in the last six months, it was one giant red blob, without a hint of road.

In the first few months, Hall's brigade lost more guys than the entire year in his first tour. One day a Humvee under his command ran over a massive IED, blasting a huge crater in the soil, killing two soldiers, seriously wounding another.

"I felt shame, absolute shame," Hall says, recalling how he smoked a pack of cigarettes in 20 minutes and couldn't sleep for days. "I was suffering from guilt, from the loss. We were having no

results. I described it to the psychologist two years later ... It was like a complete loss of identity, a loss of ideals and how you think life is or should be."

Sheri, who had been encouraging her husband to get help, finally called his commander. That led to a civilian psychologist and a diagnosis of PTSD.

"I thought my career was over," Hall says. "I thought, 'What am I going to do?' At the same time, I had this feeling of 'Aha, there IS something wrong. I'm not making this up.'"

There's no way to know for sure how a soldier will react to multiple tours.

Some go to war four times and never have a problem. Some deploy once and are forever changed. Others never leave the United States and develop PTSD.

Justin Taylor's breaking point came on his third stint in Iraq. The former Army sergeant started having anxiety attacks. He vividly remembers the first one.

"I couldn't breathe," he says. "We had mortars coming in. I was shaking and (a friend) said, 'Dude, are you OK?' When I had to go on patrol, I started feeling it. I had to suppress it. I couldn't tell my boss I couldn't go."

Back home, he began drinking so heavily, he'd black out. Within months in early 2007, he got his marching orders for a fourth tour and told his (then-estranged) wife: "If I go back, I'm not coming home."

He knew that was a dangerous feeling.

"If you've got a death wish or think you're going to be die," he says, "you're not going to be able to lead your soldiers or perform your duties."

Taylor says when he told a captain in his company, the officer chastised him, saying: "'You're an alcoholic. We're going to cure you by sending you back to Iraq.'"

A civilian psychologist at Fort Carson, Colo., he adds, told him he was faking PTSD to get out of going back. He admitted himself twice to a mental hospital and received an honorable discharge.

Soldiers face the kind of repeated stress—much like police and firefighters—that piles up, says Dr. Paul Ragan, an associate professor of psychiatry at Vanderbilt University and a Navy psychiatrist for the Marines during Desert Storm.

"The bottom line is trauma is cumulative," he says. "It embeds itself in your brain and you can't shake it loose."

Military in-field surveys support the notion.

A 2009 report of Army troops in Afghanistan found the rate of psychological problems rose significantly with the number of deployments: 31 percent for three tours, more than double the rate of those with just one.

In Iraq, the survey found nearly 15 percent of Army troops who served two tours suffered from depression, anxiety or traumatic stress, more than double that of single tour. When it came to PTSD alone, the rate was 2.5 times higher for two deployments compared to one.

"We just don't know whether it's combat exposure, repeated separation from the family or (not enough) time off," says Lt. Col. Paul Bliese, director of the division of psychiatry and neuroscience at the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research. "All of those are reasonable explanations."

Other research supports these findings. A Stanford University study—based on a mathematical model—estimates the risk of PTSD for those serving one tour will be 24 percent five years after

returning home. It jumps to 39 percent for a second tour, and a staggering 64 percent for a fourth.

And a recent study of New Jersey National Guard members who had served in Iraq or Afghanistan found nearly one in five of those re-deploying to Iraq screened positive for PTSD. The study also found "surprisingly high" rates of PTSD and alcohol abuse just days before these soldiers were returning to combat.

The findings raise serious questions about the military's ability to screen soldiers for psychological problems before sending them back to war, says Dr. Donald Ciccone, a study author and associate professor of psychiatry at the New Jersey Medical School.

It's not just combat that's emotionally draining. It's also the separation from families.

"When you come home, it's not like everything is peachy keen," Ragan says. "You're trying to re-establish yourself with your family, then you're gone again. How many times can you do that?"

See **REVOLVING** on Page 18

F O C U S

REVOLVING

From Page 1

And yet, some troops do want to return, says Broder, of The Soldiers Project. "The big motivation is to be with their band of brothers," she says. "These are their tightest bonds."

Sam Rhodes, now a retired command sergeant major, was home about 40 days when he eagerly returned to Iraq a second time. "I just supported the war. I felt comfortable there and I felt that's where I needed to be," he says.

It was on his third tour when he collapsed—both physically and mentally. He was diagnosed with PTSD.

The loss of seven soldiers in his brigade in a single month proved especially traumatic. "You've got high expectations," he says. "You think you've learned a lot in the previous deployments and you think 'I'm going to do a better job of getting my guys home.'"

When Rhodes came home to Fort Benning, Ga., in 2005, he and his wife of 26 years divorced.

"She says the war took the man she married away from her, that I would never be the same ... (But) the war didn't change me," he says. "It gave me a better perspective of what's important in life."

And yet, Rhodes, who has since remarried, now believes he should have taken a break of a year or more between tours.

Many experts believe soldiers aren't home long enough—the military phrase is called dwell time—between tours. The Army study found it averaged 17 months, short of the two to three years considered optimal.

Ryan McNabb, a former Navy corpsman attached to the Marines, had four months between his two stints in Iraq—by choice. He volunteered for a regiment he felt would face less enemy fire than he saw on his first deployment.

At Al Asad Air Base on his second tour, McNabb had time to think. Maybe too much. He worried. About his mother and father. About his brother and sister. Even about his aunts and uncles. He'd try calling them. If there was no answer, he'd worry they'd been in a car accident.

"Your mind is like, 'Hey, things are fine.' But no, they can't be fine," McNabb says. "You're thinking, 'I'm in Iraq, people are dying right and left. Or there's a sandstorm coming. I have to worry about something, I have to keep my mind going.' The more I'd sit and think, the more I'd get depressed."

And it wasn't always about combat.

One day Marines found two little physically disabled Iraqi brothers, maybe 2 and 3, chained to a brick by their father. McNabb cleaned, diapered and fed them—but was pained when they had to be returned to

their father.

Returning to North Carolina in 2006, he found comfort in booze: a pitcher of beer at lunch, a 12-pack at night. "I was a high-functioning drunk," he says. "I could drink and drink and drink and never go to sleep. It made me feel good."

It also led to a night in jail after an intoxicated McNabb punched a police officer.

McNabb transferred to Italy, where he met his wife, Mandy. For a time they moved to California, where he stopped drinking. But he couldn't control his anger.

Once when his wife couldn't quiet their crying 8-month old son as they headed to see Santa Claus, McNabb pulled the rearview mirror off their speeding car and smashed the global positioning system, shattering the windshield.

Others noticed McNabb's troubles, but he was slow to acknowledge them.

"When you're talking about PTSD, you don't want to admit it to anyone or it's, 'Oh, yeah, I got a little. I've got 1 percent' In every good Mel Gibson movie, he has a blackout, he has cold sweats," McNabb says. "I didn't have that."

Finally, his brother, Brock, an Army veteran of two Iraq tours, referred him to a center run by the Department of Veterans Affairs, where a counselor, a former Marine who'd served in Vietnam, proved an enormous help.

McNabb, now 29, works as an outreach coordinator for a Vet Center in suburban Chicago. He still is being treated for PTSD, and while Iraq is fresh in his memory, he's not eager to share war stories.

"It's like a drink. It makes you feel good right now," he says, "but in the long run, what's it going to do?"

The much-publicized suicides linked to PTSD are very real. But so are the stories of those who find ways to survive.

Jeff Hall took the pistol from his head and put it down. He eventually found help in an intensive three-week treatment program at Walter Reed he attended with his wife.

"It gave me hope that there was a chance I could heal," he says. "It didn't make me feel so damned crazy."

Hall is now creating the resilience campus at Fort Riley, Kan. The program will help soldiers and their families rebound from multiple tours and deal with the stresses of war and everyday life.

Still, he does not consider himself cured of PTSD.

"I don't believe that you get over it," he says. "I think you learn to live it with it. I think you learn not to let it control you. You learn to control it. That's where I am. It took a long time to get there."

Sam Rhodes, the retired command sergeant major, has written a book about his own expe-

riences, "Changing the Military Culture of Silence." He travels the country, talking to military and civilian audiences to demystify PTSD.

He carries in his pockets photos of soldiers who killed themselves when they were consumed by depression—and occasionally displays them to remind people of what can happen.

Rhodes still struggles with his own anxieties: A war movie, patriotic music or the crackle of a gunshot can stop him in his tracks or bring tears to his eyes.

"I tell people, 'Look, I'm going to have PTSD the rest of my life,'" he says. "Only a normal person can go to war and see the things we have and feel what we have when we come back. If you're rock hard and have no feeling of loss or anything, that's what's abnormal." Joe Callan, now 31, has always been rock hard. Growing up in rough neighborhoods and on a Navajo reservation exposed him to some harsh realities of life that were magnified thousands of times over in Iraq. He saw friends die, endured IED blasts and in one three-month period, faced almost daily mortar attacks. His survival strategy was hang tough, be tough.

"I always ran at the problem. If we were getting shot at, I'd run at the bullets. If you shoot back more than they're shooting at you, you'll win," he says.

Callan says he was told after his second tour that he probably had a stress disorder. He shrugged it off.

He ended his 11-year stint in the Marines two years ago, and it was then that his life unraveled in a familiar pattern: Depression. Insomnia. Anger.

These days, Callan's not especially worried about having PTSD. He figures many of his Marine buddies are in the same boat, with worse symptoms. He has rebounded, though he's still adjusting to a life where he doesn't have to worry about ambushes, bombs, crowds—or what's behind him. He can now sit in restaurants without watching the entrance. "It makes me tense in my shoulders and my back," he says, "but I can do it. A while back, I wouldn't have had my back to the door."

Callan credits his wife, Katy, their three kids and other family with helping him recover. Callan has been in and out of VA counseling; he has little time for that kind of stuff.

"I have to suck it up," he says, "because people are depending on me."

He has found renewed purpose in a job: He's now an organizer for Iraq Veterans Against the War. Soon, he hopes, this war will be over.

"I just want to have a small farm," he says, "hang out with my family, grow vegetables and be left alone. I just don't want to be a part of it anymore."

Environment

Public participation eyed for EPA Open Government Plan

WASHINGTON D.C.—The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has published the first edition of its Open Government Plan. The plan discusses publishing EPA information online, improving the quality of the information, and creating a culture of open government.

This is in response to President Obama's Open Government Directive, which outlines a plan for breaking down the barriers between the federal government and the public. Today, federal departments and agencies are putting forward concrete plans for making operations and data more transparent, and expanding opportunities for citizen participation, collaboration, and oversight.

These steps will strengthen democracy and promote efficiency and effectiveness across the government.

"EPA is very focused on ensuring public access and participation in our activities,"

ON THE NET

■ Open Government: <http://www.epa.gov/open>

■ Public comments: <http://www.openepa.ideascale.com/>

said Linda Travers, principal deputy assistant administrator for EPA's Office of Environmental Information. "With our new plan, we're not only meeting the objectives of the directive, but we're also building on our culture of promoting openness."

EPA's flagship initiative, Community Engagement, is an over-arching theme that focuses on outreach to disadvantaged

communities, expanding public awareness of the rulemaking process, and improving access to environmental information through the development of mobile applications. The agency is focused on working with

communities in innovative ways, with the goal of sharing best practices and lessons learned for future efforts.

To address public comments and suggestions, EPA will continue the conversation in a series of blog posts for discussion on the plan and with a video town hall meeting in early summer 2010. EPA plans to review its Open Government Plan every six months as suggestions come in from the public. (EPA)

Free movies to celebrate Earth Day

At the American Memorial Park Theater

The Lorax

*A family film based on the book by Dr. Seuss

Dates: April 19 and April 22

Times: 3pm and 4:30pm (30 minutes)

EXPO showing dates & times: April 21 at 10am and 12pm.

The Lorax, one of the earliest environmentalists in children's literature, attempts to save trees from destruction by the Once-ler. Watch the Lorax fight for his cause in this animated feature, which also includes "Pontoffel Pock and His Magic Piano," about a piano-playing sprite who travels through space and time in a blink.

Time: 3pm and 5pm (120 minutes)

Award-winning photographer Yann Arthus-Bertrand directs this breathtaking ode to planet Earth, an aerial voyage that captures the interdependence of the world's ecosystems—and the bruises left behind by human indifference. From the agricultural revolution to our ever-increasing reliance on oil, narrator Glenn Close examines the changes that have wreaked havoc on our home, urging viewers to preserve the Earth's remaining natural treasures.

The End of the Line

Dates: April 22

Time: 5:30pm (85 minutes)

Sponsored by the Mariana Islands Nature Alliance, MINA (minapacific.org)

The End of the Line delves beyond the surface of the seas to reveal a troubling truth beneath: an ocean increasingly empty of fish, destroyed by decades of overexploitation. Exploring the tragic collapse of the cod fishery in Newfoundland in the 1990s, the imminent extinction of the prized bluefin tuna, and the devastation wreaked by illegal catches and surpassed fishing quotas, the film uncovers the dark ecological story behind our love affair with fish as food.

For Information: Lisa Eller/Division of Environmental Quality/664-8500.

DO YOUR PART

Is your home making you sick?

By TERRI BENNETT
MCCLEACHY NEWSPAPERS

It's what most of us look forward to at the end of a busy day: coming home, putting our feet up, and taking a deep breath of polluted air. Shocking, yes. But many times, we are doing just that. You may be surprised to find out that the air we breathe inside our homes every day can be several times more polluted than the air outside. It makes sense when we take stock of the many chemicals we bring into our homes. Do Your Part and reduce indoor air pollution when you make smarter choices about the furniture, paints and cleaning supplies you buy for your home.

When shopping for furniture, you need to do more than pick out pieces that are attractive or comfortable. It's important to also find out how the pieces are made and whether they will slowly emit toxins into your home.

For the times when you need something new, there are a few items you should definitely avoid. Pressed woods like particleboard, plywood, and medium density fiberboard (MDF) are known to contain urea-formaldehyde resin. Of the three wood materials, MDF releases the most formaldehyde. Formaldehyde is a colorless gas that can cause skin rashes, chronic headaches, and is also a suspected carcinogen.

Household paint is another item that can continue to emit dangerous gases into your home's air, even after the fumes are gone. In fact, paints and finishes are the leading source of Volatile Organic Compounds, or VOCs, in our homes. VOCs can cause all kinds of breathing problems and have been linked to rapidly increasing asthma rates in our children. When you're redecorating a room or re-finishing a piece of furniture,

shop for low- or no-VOC products. Most paint companies have these options and they're just as durable and cost effective. And buy only the amount of paint, thinner or finish than your project needs.

And don't forget about all the cleaners you bring into your home every day. Household cleaners that are chemical based can pollute your home as the toxins evaporate into the air or are left behind on cleaned surfaces. As a rule of thumb, if the product has a warning or danger label, it's likely not good for you or the environment. Choosing a plant-based or natural cleaner like vinegar or baking soda will also reduce the amount of pollution in your home.

Terri Bennett is an Earth scientist, syndicated columnist and mom. Send questions to terri@doyourpart.com. Get more every day green living tips at www.DoYourPart.com.

Life & Style

1913 Abraham Lincoln film found in NH barn cleanup

Warrants issued, again, for Randy Quaid, wife

SANTA BARBARA, Calif. (AP)—Randy Quaid and his wife are once again wanted by authorities. The couple failed to show up for a court appearance in Santa Barbara on Monday on charges they defrauded an innkeeper. Senior Deputy District Attorney Lee Carter says they also didn't show up when their case was again called on Tuesday.

Arrest warrants have been repeatedly sought and later quashed for the Quaid's, who were charged last year with failing to pay a \$10,000 hotel bill.

They pleaded not guilty in December and were released on \$40,000 bail. Carter says that bail has now been forfeited.

A phone message for the Quaid's attorney, Robert Sanger, was not returned Tuesday.

Randy Quaid has appeared in several films, including "Independence Day" and "National Lampoon's Vacation."

CONCORD, N.H. (AP)—In a tale celebrating the romance of movies, a contractor cleaning out an old New Hampshire barn destined for demolition found seven reels of nitrate film inside, including the only known copy of a 1913 silent film about Abraham Lincoln.

"When Lincoln Paid," a 30-minute film about the mother of a dead Union soldier asking Lincoln to pardon a Confederate soldier whom she had initially turned in, stars the brother of John Ford, director of "The Grapes of Wrath," "The Quiet Man," and other classics. "I was up in the attic space, and shoved away over in a corner was the film and a silent movie projector, as well," Peter Massie, a movie buff, said of his discovery in the western New Hampshire town of Nelson. "I thought it was really cool."

It was the summer of 2006, and the film canisters sat in his basement for a while before Massie thought of contacting nearby Keene State College, where film professor Larry Benaquist thought it was a rare find.

After working with the George Eastman House film preservation museum in Rochester, N.Y., the college determined that the film, directed by and starring Francis Ford,

did not exist in film archives. In fact, it was one of eight silent films starring Ford as Lincoln; there are no known surviving copies of the others.

"The vast majority of silent films, particularly from the early period—the first decade of the 20th century—are gone," said Caroline Frick Page, curator of motion pictures at George Eastman House. "That's what makes these stories so incredibly special."

The college, which plans an April 20 film screening, received a grant from the National Film Preservation Foundation to restore it. It took a Colorado lab a year to complete the task.

Benaquist said the images themselves were well preserved, likely because they endured decades of New England winters in the barn, which also was well sheltered by trees. Nitrate film, which was phased out in Hollywood in the 1950s, is highly flammable. The 35 mm film itself had shrunk and the sprocket holes used on projectors were shredded.

"What the laboratory had to do was remanufacture the sprocket holes to a new dimension, make it in strips, adhere it to the image, and then run it through a printing process where they would print it, frame by frame," Benaquist said.



In this handout photo courtesy of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences director and film star Francis Ford is seen in the roll of Abraham Lincoln in a 1913 film that had been lost for 97 years.

Benaquist thinks the film was discovered in Nelson because the town is on Granite Lake, the site of many summer camps through the years. He said there was a boys' camp in the area of the barn and believes the films were shown to entertain the children, then put away and forgotten.

Helping the restoration was Mark Reinhart of Columbus, Ohio, author of "Abraham Lincoln on Screen." He had a crude video copy of the film that had been made from an 8-mm copy and included a few scenes that were missing from the film found in the barn. The college

combined a DVD of the restored film with a DVD taken of Reinhart's film for its final version.

Back in 1913, the film was praised by "Moving Picture World," a weekly trade publication sent to film distributors, as "a great war drama" with vivid battle scenes.

Francis Ford, who died in 1953 at age 72, is better known for small, mostly comic roles in at least 30 of his younger brother's films, "often playing a coonskin drunk who can spit across the room," said Tag Gallagher, author of the book "John Ford."

"If you're into these things

you quickly recognize him and it becomes a kind of cult thing to finding him, and he's quite delightful," said Gallagher, who lives near Boston. "But if you go back to the teens, he was a very big and important director."

The Fords were from Portland, Maine. Francis Ford, who introduced John Ford to the business, was quite famous as a director and star, acting in numerous silent films up until World War I, Gallagher said. When John Ford started directing, his fame overshadowed his brother's.

Old movie buffs might remember Francis Ford in such scenes as a drunken juror in 1939's "Young Mr. Lincoln" starring Henry Fonda, and an elderly man who miraculously rises from his deathbed to see a climactic fistfight in 1952's "The Quiet Man" starring John Wayne.

During the silent film era, Francis Ford was one of many actors who portrayed Lincoln, Reinhart said. "He's not a particularly good Lincoln, he's kind of short and stocky," he said. Lincoln was better depicted by others in that era, such as Frank McGlynn and Benjamin Chapin, Reinhart said.

Massie is looking forward to seeing the restored film. "I can't wait to see what's on there myself."

In Humble Gratitude

We, the family of

EDMOND "NED" SALAS DEBRUM

extend our sincerest appreciation to our many relatives, friends, classmates, and associates, from near and far, for the genuine compassion extended to us during our most difficult and sorrowful moments. Your presence at the daily masses of intention offered in memory of our beloved and most especially at the funeral mass and burial brought comfort to our hearts.

We have been richly blessed with loving and caring people and for helping us with much courage and strength to endure the grief and sorrow for our loss. We shall forever treasure in our hearts all these Christian gestures and May God continue to bless us and hold all of us in his great Love.

On Friday, April 16, 2010, we the family humbly and cordially invite you all to join us for the mass of intention for our Dearly Beloved †Edmond at 6:00 a.m. to be celebrated at Mount Carmel Cathedral and followed immediately with breakfast to be served at the Joeten Daidai Social Hall.

Thank you, Dangkulo na Si Yu'us Ma'ase, Maraming Salamat Po.

Leriza S. Debrum and children
Leslie S. Debrum & Eloise Kannelly
Ida S. Debrum & Paul C. Camacho

William Safire's FBI file details grades, wiretaps

WASHINGTON (AP)—Conservative columnist William Safire was not quite a B student in college before dropping out and beginning a career that would take him to the White House and earn him a Pulitzer Prize, according to details released in his FBI file.

The FBI this month released nearly 350 pages of documents related to Safire, who died in September at the age of 79. The documents became public after Safire's death and date from 1965 to 1994.

Many of the documents are biographical, including some 125 pages from a background investigation conducted when he became a speech writer for President Richard Nixon in 1969. A former employer, one of more than 30 people interviewed, told FBI investigators that Safire was

able to work "long hours under enormous pressure and that he had demonstrated extreme stability in such situations."

The man, John Reagan McCrary, a radio host and publicist, called Safire nearly "glacial" in pressure situations. A client told investigators that Safire had always been "careful to avoid exaggeration" and to "fairly represent the accomplishments" of the company. Another 175 pages detail wiretapping ordered by the Nixon administration, including the tapping of Safire's phone. Safire later learned about the tapping, and it shaped his feelings about warrantless wiretapping conducted during President George Bush's administration.

A few pages also detail a threatening letter Safire received in 1994 from a reader angry about his columns on the

Clinton administration. Safire, a New York Times columnist for more than 30 years, told FBI officials it was the only threatening letter he had ever received. The sender could not be identified, and the case was eventually closed.

Some of the earliest material dates from 1969, when investigators did a background check on Safire, who was joining the Nixon White House as a speech writer. The FBI's investigators learned that Safire, then 39, had been an "honor senior" at the Bronx High School of Science and served as circulation manager of the newspaper. As a student at Syracuse University between 1947 and 1949, he had an average "just short of a B" before quitting the school. Later, while running his own public relations firm, he had clients such as The



This Dec. 1968 picture shows William Safire, newly appointed special assistant to President-elect Nixon.

Good Humor Corporation and Ex-Lax Inc. in Brooklyn.

The bulk of the file is only partly related to Safire, however, and includes an investigation into the wiretapping, which lasted from 1969 into 1971 and was ap-

parently started because of leaks surrounding Strategic Arms Limitation Talks. The talks between the U.S. and Soviet Union were on the subject of arms control. The documents show Safire was among more than a dozen

people, including some at the White House and four journalists, whose phones were tapped. The wiretap on Safire lasted four months and found nothing.

"I have a thing about wiretapping," Safire said on "Meet The Press" in 2006, describing what had happened to him and referencing wiretapping during the Bush administration. "I didn't like that ... it told me how easy it was to just take somebody who was not really suspected of anything for any good reason and listen to every conversation in his home."

He had been more forceful in his criticism after learning of the wiretaps in 1973, writing in a column that he hadn't worked for Nixon to "have him—or some lizard-lidded paranoid acting in his name without his approval—eavesdropping on my conversations."

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Date Night

Friday	4:10	7:30	9:35
Saturday	1:20	4:10	7:30
Sunday	1:20	4:10	7:30
Mon thru Thurs	4:10	7:30	

Steve Carrell, Tina Fey
 Comedy • Rated PG 13

Synopsis

Steve Carrell and Tina Fey star in director Shawn Levy's comedy about a couple whose routine date night becomes anything but when dinner and a movie just won't suffice anymore. Their union in imminent danger of becoming hopelessly monotonous, the desperate couple goes to unprecedented lengths in order to preserve the spark.



Our Family Wedding

Friday	4:30	7:25	9:50
Saturday	1:10	4:30	7:25
Sunday	1:10	4:30	7:25
Mon thru Thurs	4:30	7:25	

Forest Whitaker, America Ferrera
 Fantasy • Rated PG 13

Synopsis

Our marriage, their wedding. It's lesson number one for any newly engaged couple, and Lucia (America Ferrera) and Marcus (Lance Gross) are no exception. In Fox Searchlight Pictures' Our Family Wedding, they learn the hard way that the path to saying "I do" can be rife with familial strife. When they return from college and too suddenly announce their marriage plans, they soon discover that their fathers—two highly competitive over-the-top egos—can wreak a major amount of havoc on their special day.



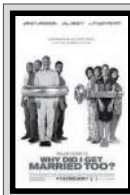
Clash Of The Titans

Friday	4:25	7:20	9:45
Saturday	1:25	4:25	7:20
Sunday	1:25	4:25	7:20
Mon thru Thurs	4:25	7:20	

Sam Worthington
 Fantasy • Rated PG 13

Synopsis

The 1981 mythological fantasy adventure Clash of the Titans is resurrected in this remake from Incredible Hulk director Louis Leterrier and veteran writer Lawrence Kasdan. The joint Legendary Films/Warner Bros. production focuses on Perseus (Sam Worthington), the mortal hero made to carry out a series of quests by the gods in order to win the hand of the imprisoned princess Andromeda.



Why Did I Get Married Too?

Friday	4:20	7:05	9:40
Saturday	1:05	4:20	7:05
Sunday	1:05	4:20	7:05
Mon thru Thurs	4:20	7:05	

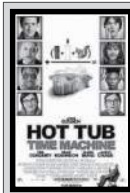
Janet Jackson, Tyler Perry
 Comedy • Rated PG 13



How To Train Your Dragon

Friday	4:00	7:00	9:30
Saturday	1:00	4:00	7:00
Sunday	1:00	4:00	7:00
Mon thru Thurs	4:00	7:00	

Gerald Butler, America Ferrera
 Children, Family • Rated PG



Hot Tub Time Machine

Friday	4:05	7:10	9:55
Saturday	1:30	4:05	7:10
Sunday	1:30	4:05	7:10
Mon thru Thurs	4:05	7:10	

John Cusack, Robert Corddry
 Comedy • Rated R



Alice in Wonderland

Friday	4:15	7:15	10:00
Saturday	1:15	4:15	7:15
Sunday	1:15	4:15	7:15
Mon thru Thurs	4:15	7:15	

Johnny Depp, Anne Hathaway
 Fantasy • Rated PG

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'Twilight' series on list of challenged books

NEW YORK (AP)—Stephenie Meyer, the hottest author for young people since J.K. Rowling, has a new link to the creator of "Harry Potter": a place high on the list of books most complained about by parents and educators.

Meyer's multimillion-selling "Twilight" series was ranked No. 5 on the annual report of "challenged books" released Wednesday by the American Library Association. Meyer's stories of vampires and teen romance have been criticized for sexual content; a library association official also thinks that the "Twilight" series reflects general unease about supernatural stories.



Meyer

"Vampire novels have been a target for years and the 'Twilight' books are so immensely popular that a lot of the concerns people have had about vampires are focused on her books," says Barbara Jones, director of the association's Office for Intellectual Freedom.

Christian groups for years have protested the themes of wizardry in Rowling's books, which don't appear on the current top 10.

Topping the 2009 chart was Lauren Myracle's "IM" series, novels told through instant

messages that have been criticized for nudity, language and drug references. Last year's No. 1 book, "And Tango Makes Three," by Peter Parnell and Justin Richardson, is now No. 2, cited

again for its story about two male penguins adopting a baby. Third was Stephen Chbosky's "The Perks of Being a Wallflower," for which the many reasons include drugs, suicide, homosexuality and being antifamily.

Also cited were such perennials as J.D. Salinger's "The Catcher in the Rye" (sexual content, language), Harper Lee's "To Kill a Mockingbird" (language, racism), Alice Walker's "The Color Purple" (sexual content, language) and Robert Cormier's "The Chocolate War" (nudity, language, sexual content).

The ALA recorded 460 challenges in 2009, a drop from 513 the year before, and 81 books actually being removed. The ALA defines a challenge as a "formal, written complaint filed with a library or school requesting that materials be removed because of content or appropriateness."

For every challenge tallied, about four or five end up unreported, according to the ALA.

'Next to Normal' wins Pulitzer Prize for drama

NEW YORK (AP)—"Next to Normal," a musical about the complexity and heartbreak of a woman's mental illness and its effect on her family, has won the 2010 Pulitzer Prize for drama.

"Everybody can relate to what we wrote about," Tom Kitt, the composer of "Next to Normal," said Monday. "Even though the score is based mostly in rock, I try to write emotional music for the appropriate moment."

Brian Yorkey, who wrote the show's book and lyrics, agreed.

"While I am really flattered when people say we have changed the form of musicals, I don't know if that is true. Certainly, the show is adventurous," Yorkey said. "But, ironically, the other side is that this is a show about real people and what they are going through, exploring their pains and also their joys on a level that musicals don't often do."

Paul Harding's "Tinkers," a debut novel released by the tiny Bellevue Literary Press, was the

surprise fiction winner. Harding, who writes of an old New Englander looking back on his life, is the former drummer of Cold Water Flat, and started the book a decade ago while the band was on hiatus.

"I worked on it for five to six years and actually tried to have it published, but couldn't find an agent or a publisher," said Harding, who currently teaches at the University of Iowa.

A narrative about a 19th-century financial lord, T.J. Stiles' "The First Tycoon: The Epic Life of Cornelius Vanderbilt," was the biography winner.

"I worked on my book for about seven years and I had no idea it would be so timely when it was published," Stiles said. "I really asked about the nature of finance and the financial sector, the rise of corporations and the financial markets. I didn't just examine the life of my subject, but the underpinning of the rise of the financial sector and the

corporate economy."

Another timely book, "The Dead Hand: The Untold Story of the Cold War Arms Race and Its Dangerous Legacy," by David E. Hoffman, won for general nonfiction.

"My goal was to show the history of the end of the Cold War through both sides—the U.S. side and the Soviet side," said Hoffman, a contributing editor at The Washington Post. "I really felt that especially the Soviet side of the story hadn't been well told because we didn't know. A lot of the research was to dig into what they were really thinking and doing as opposed to what they were saying in propaganda." A book about the financial crisis, Liaquat Ahamed's "Lords of Finance: The Bankers Who Broke the World," won for history. Ahamed said books about economic history tend to be dry, which made him want to tell the story by focusing it on the personal stories of the men.

Rickey Minor replacing Eubanks on 'Tonight Show'

NEW YORK (AP)—“American Idol” music director Rickey Minor is headed for “The Tonight Show with Jay Leno.”

Minor replaces longtime music director Kevin Eubanks, who on Monday’s show made his May 28 exit date official.

In an announcement Tuesday, NBC said Minor is expected to debut at “Tonight” on June 7.

The current season of “American Idol” ends in late May, after which Minor will continue to consult with “Idol” creator Simon Fuller on various projects, NBC said.

Minor has also served as music director of the Super Bowl, the Grammy Awards and “The NAACP Image Awards.”

His 2009 book, “There’s No Traffic on the Extra Mile,” shares his recollections of collaborating with such performing artists as Whitney Houston, Christina Aguilera, Alicia Keys, Ray Charles and Beyonce.

“We couldn’t be more excited,” said Debbie Vickers, “Tonight” executive producer. She said the show “has a long tradition of acclaimed musicians in this role, and it’s great to now include Rickey alongside Kevin and Branford (Marsalis).”

Eubanks has been aboard “Tonight” since Leno took over as host in 1992. He became music director when Marsalis left in 1995, with duties that included strumming the guitar and playing Leno’s comic sidekick. In February, NBC said Eubanks had expressed interest in personal touring and recording.

Another celebrity leaves the ‘Dancing’ ballroom



LOS ANGELES (AP)—Actor Aiden Turner is saying goodbye to the ballroom.

The “All My Children” heart-throb was eliminated Tuesday from “Dancing With the Stars.”

Turner landed in second-to-last place Monday, earning mediocre marks for his rumba. Judges scored contestants separately for technique and performance, with 30 points possible for each. Turner finished with 33 points altogether.

He is the third contestant to be axed from the hit ABC show. Astronaut Buzz Aldrin and actress Shannen Doherty have already been eliminated. The remaining contestants are reality stars Jake Pavelka and Kate Gosselin, singer Nicole Scherzinger, actresses Pamela Anderson and Niecy Nash, sportscaster Erin Andrews, Olympic figure skater Evan Lysacek and football star Chad Ochocinco.

AP
In this publicity image released by ABC, Aiden Turner, right, and his partner Edyta Slivinska perform on “Dancing with the Stars,” Monday, April 5, 2010 in Los Angeles.

Jackson doctor’s license restricted in Texas

HOUSTON (AP)—The Texas Medical Board has restricted the doctor charged in Michael Jackson’s death from administering the drug authorities say was responsible for killing the pop star.

Dr. Conrad Murray cannot use or administer propofol, any anesthetic agent normally administered by an anesthesiologist, any other heavy sedatives or any form of general sedation in Texas as part of an agreed order issued by the medical board last week.

Murray, who was working as Jackson’s personal physician, is charged with involuntary manslaughter in the singer’s June 2009 death in California from

the anesthetic propofol and other drugs. He has pleaded not guilty.

A California judge also has prohibited Murray from administering propofol and putting patients under general anesthetic.

The medical board’s order does not prohibit Murray from prescribing or using other medications, including pain medication, anti-anxiety medication or local or topical anesthetics. Murray can be part of a medical team providing propofol or other heavy or general anesthetics as long as he does not personally administer or prescribe them.

The medical board said it took the action as a result of the

charges Murray faces in Jackson’s death.

Murray, 57, a cardiologist, has clinics in Las Vegas and Houston and also has a license to practice in California. A court hearing regarding his California medical license is set for June 14.

Jackson was 50 and about to launch a series of comeback shows in London when he died after being rushed to a hospital from his rented mansion. Murray, who signed on in May at \$150,000 a month to keep Jackson healthy through the comeback tour, told police he had been treating the singer for insomnia.

Woman is weary of hosting every time in-laws visit

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



DEAR ABBY: My in-laws (whom I love dearly) moved to another state after retirement, and when they come to visit they always stay with us. They own a house next door that is occupied by their daughter, and they also have another child living nearby.

How can I politely suggest that they stay in their own house with their daughter or with the other child? Both have the space to accommodate them. I work very early morning hours and don’t want to disturb them, but they pretty much take over our house when they are here. I don’t know if the other children offer them a place to stay or not, but I’m tired of having them here every time they visit.

STUCK IN THE SOUTHWEST

DEAR STUCK: Discuss this with your husband and his siblings. It’s possible that the other children haven’t extended an invitation to the parents to stay with them.

And if you view it from another perspective, it’s unfair to the others that the parents slight them by staying with you when they’re in town.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I am not gay or bisexual, but I’m in love with my boss, who is a female like me. She’s 27 and I am 17. She is married and doesn’t know how I feel about her.

I looked up her address on the Internet and got directions to her house. I drive by every day—don’t ask me why. I told her I have a friend who lives on the same street that she does, and that I saw her car in the driveway.

About a month ago, she caught me driving by as she was pulling out of her driveway. Two days ago, she called my mother—they have been friends for years—and asked, “What’s wrong with ‘Janie’?” She pulled my address up from a computer. I saw her driving past my house.”

That’s all my mom told me, but how in the heck did she find out? I still have the printout in my bedroom, and it’s still in the same position it was, so I don’t think my mom saw it and told her about it. Only three of my closest friends know, and I don’t think they repeated anything because they have no reason to—and they don’t know my boss. What’s going on here? Am I going crazy?

FOUND OUT IN FLORIDA

DEAR FOUND OUT: What’s “going on” is you have become obsessed with your boss, and your trips past her house could be construed as stalking. You are not “going crazy,” but you definitely need counseling. Please tell your mother I said so.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: “College Co-Ed in Williamsburg, Va.” (Feb. 10) was concerned about her mother opening and reading her bills and statements. There’s another option you didn’t address.

If it is too much bother to rent a post office box near her college and have the mail forwarded to her parents’ home during semester breaks, a simpler and easier option is “paperless” bank statements. Most banks and companies let you choose to receive your statements electronically.

“Co-Ed” can go online to the various entities from whom she receives regular bills and select the “paperless billing” or “paperless statement” option under her account settings. When new bills/statements are available, she’ll get an e-mail from each company informing her she can log in to her account to review her statements and bills.

This way, her mother can’t see her bills and bank statements, and she’ll have the satisfaction of knowing she is doing her bit for the environment.

SAVVY ONLINE CONSUMER IN SAN ANTONIO

DEAR SAVVY: You know what? You’re absolutely right. And so are the hundreds of other readers who wrote to say the same thing. Thank you.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

To receive a collection of Abby’s most memorable – and most frequently requested – poems and essays, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Bret Michaels has emergency appendectomy in Texas

NEW YORK (AP) — Bret Michaels is recovering from an emergency appendectomy at a Texas hospital. The 47-year-old rocker’s Web site says Michaels was urged to go to the hospital as he was preparing to take the stage in San Antonio on Sunday night. He had been having severe stomach pains all day “and what was assumed to be a severe case of the flu.” The statement says Michaels had emergency surgery early Monday and is now “doing well and beginning the recovery process.” Michaels was the frontman for the ‘80s hair band Poison.

George Strait’s latest hit sets a Billboard record

NEW YORK (AP) — George Strait has set a Billboard record. The trade magazine said Tuesday that the country legend is the first act to hit the top 10 on any Billboard chart for 30 straight years. The song that set the record was “I Gotta Get to You,” which has reached No. 9 on Billboard’s top country songs list. Strait’s first country top 10 hit was in 1981, with “Unwound,” and he has cracked the top 10 every year since then. His latest hit is his 82nd top 10 country hit.

Patti LaBelle to get honorary degree in US

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Veteran R&B diva Patti LaBelle is getting an honorary degree from Temple University in her hometown of Philadelphia. The university will present LaBelle with the doctorate in humane letters at its May 13 commencement ceremony. LaBelle’s singing career has spanned more than four decades and includes several hit records and two Grammy Awards. She has also written four books, two of which are cookbooks. LaBelle served as a spokeswoman for the American Diabetes Association after being diagnosed with the condition. Two years ago, she partnered with Temple to raise awareness about diabetes. Temple President Ann Weaver Hart says in a statement Tuesday that the university is honoring LaBelle for “her professional excellence and her selfless service to others.”

Elizabeth Berkley writing self-help book

NEW YORK (AP) — Elizabeth Berkley is ready to take your question. The actress will be writing “Ask Elizabeth,” a “self-esteem handbook for teen girls” based on questions she has been asked over the years. G.P. Putnam’s Sons Books for Young Readers an-

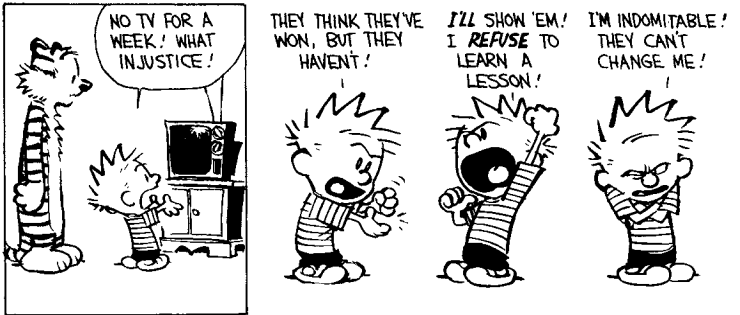
nounced Tuesday that it expects to release the book next spring. It’s an imprint of Penguin Young Readers Group. The 37-year-old Berkley is best known for the sitcom “Saved by the Bell” and for playing an exotic dancer in the movie “Showgirls.” She also appeared in the films “The First Wives Club” and “Any Given Sunday.”

Chicago poet who helped found black press dies

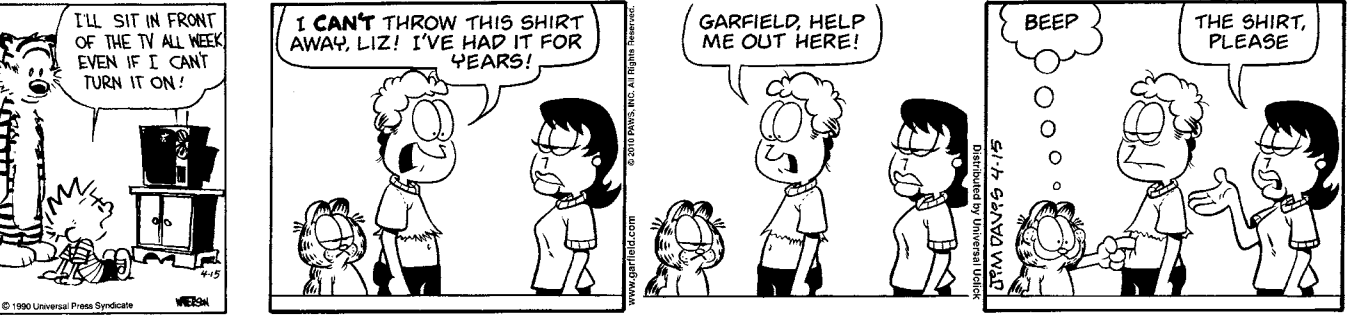
CHICAGO (AP)—Carolyn M. Rodgers, a Chicago poet and writer who helped found one of the country’s oldest and largest black-owned book publishers, has died. She was 69. The Chicago-based Third World Press says Rodgers died April 2 at Mercy Hospital after battling an undisclosed illness. The Chicago native wrote nine books, including “How I got Ovah.” Her work often delved into the experiences of black women. Rodgers is credited with being a star of the black arts movement of the 1960s and 1970s. She helped found Third World Press in the 1960s. She also started her own publishing company, Eden Press. Funeral services have been held. A public memorial is planned May 4 where Rodgers’ work will be read. Rodgers is survived by her mother and two sisters.

Pastimes

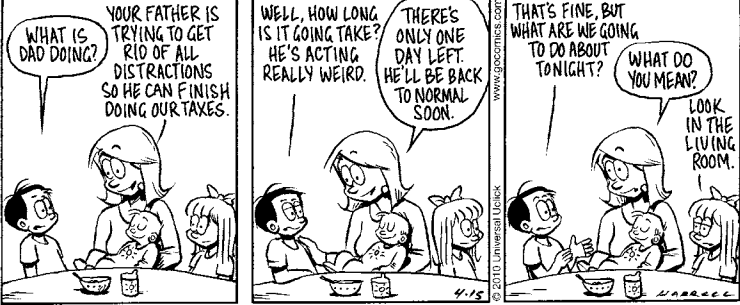
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The Duplex



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

- 1 In need of repair
- 4 Used a loom
- 8 Parisian
- 12 Prepare Easter eggs
- 13 Help a hood
- 14 Aching
- 15 Raze
- 17 No mere prank
- 18 Pussy-cat's partner
- 19 Cause for revolution
- 21 Hosts
- 24 "Pink Panther" actor
- 25 Ever-green variety
- 26 Jerry's pursuer
- 28 Moistened with drops
- 32 Snare
- 34 Violinist's need
- 36 Ms. Moore
- 37 Arrangement

DOWN

- 1 Peculiar
- 2 Caustic solution
- 3 Barack Obama, e.g.
- 4 Billfold
- 5 Japanese sash
- 6 Third piece?
- 7 — alcohol
- 8 Guilt-ridden
- 9 July 1969
- 10 Dr. Seuss' "If — the Zoo"
- 11 Alluring
- 16 Have debts
- 20 Filch
- 21 Small salamanders
- 22 Spongy terrain
- 23 Weep loudly
- 27 Broom closet
- 29 Loss of a stripe
- 30 Eastern bigwig
- 31 Skater
- 33 Creamy dessert
- 35 Kids' card game
- 38 Luau bowlful
- 40 Famed operatic trio
- 43 Fragrant wood
- 45 Baltimore newspaper
- 46 Coral structure
- 47 Common pc. of Latin
- 48 Emanation
- 49 Lily variety
- 53 Wrestling surface
- 54 Last letter
- 55 Work unit

Solution time: 25 mins.

A	E	T	V	A	T	S	B	A	Y	S
M	O	O	O	P	A	L	E	G	O	S
I	N	N	O	U	T	A	N	D	O	U
S	T	E	A	D	B	I	B			
O	U	T	T	O	S	E	A	G	A	L
A	S	H	S	L	A	N	T	N	I	B
H	E	R	B	O	U	T	O	F	G	A
U	S	U	R	P	T	I	L	L		
				O	H	S	S	Y	N	O
O	U	T	W	I	T	H	I	A	B	A
W	R	E	N	D	S	E	U	R	O	V
E	N	D	S	W	H	E	Y	E	V	E

Yesterday's answer 4-15

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12			13					14		
15			16					17		
	18				19		20			
21	22			23		24				
25			26		27		28		29	30
32		33		34		35		36		
37			38		39		40		41	
			42		43		44		45	
46	47	48			49		50			
51				52		53			54	55
56				57				58		
59				60						61

STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Seth Rogen, 28; Emma Watson, 20; Emma Thompson, 51; Roy Clark, 77

Happy Birthday: Be prepared to take a chance when it comes to your personal situation this year. If you act fast and in private, you will gain the most with the least amount of stress. Money issues may make you vulnerable. Don't leave anything to chance if you want your life to run smoothly. Prepare to fight for what you want. Your numbers are 6, 18, 21, 25, 27, 30, 47

ARIES (March 21-April 19): The future prospects look very good as long as you stick to facts and offer what you know you can supply. A challenging activity will ease your stress and help you make an important decision. ★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Criticism will lead to bad feelings and emotional distancing, so praise others for a job well done. Listen to the suggestions offered. Minor mishaps or feeling a little under the weather will be due to stress. ★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Take on a little extra if you notice someone is not feeling up to par. Your help will be reciprocated. A secret you trusted with someone in the past is not safe. Reveal the information before someone else does. ★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You can talk all you want and you will command attention but it's what you do that will count. You have options to make some very crucial changes in your life both personally

and professionally. Take advantage of what's offered. ★★★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Don't be too surprised if you have to do things on your own. Waiting around for others to catch up will be a waste of time. You may have to let go of some of the people in your life who are holding you back. ★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Present, promote and share everything you want to pursue and you will get good feedback and excellent help. Romance is in the stars, so get out in social settings. Travel, attending functions and networking will all pay off. ★★★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Concentrate on what needs to be done at home and with your personal papers in order to make things easier and less stressful. Getting behind financially or neglecting a pending problem will add to your worries. Talk to someone who can offer you sound advice. ★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Relationships will be a key to your success. A change in the way you approach life, love and the people around you will make a huge difference when an important life decision arises. Be ready to make a move. ★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Added responsibilities can be expected. Don't try to pass what's being asked of you to someone else. Uncertainty regarding your personal and professional future will have you questioning what to do next. Move quickly before you face opposition. ★★

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Making improvements around home will lift your spirits. Alterations to the way you've been living or the people in your life can be expected and should be welcomed. You are in dire need of a change. ★★★★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): There will be a fine line between being offended and offending others. A dispute can be avoided if you proceed with caution and do your best to be pleasant and noncommittal. Don't meddle in other people's affairs. ★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Traveling back in time mentally will help you remember some of the people who have meant something special to you in the past. An unusual relationship will transpire if you are open about your feelings. ★★★★★

Birthday Baby: You are outspoken, a go-getter and a fighter for rights. You don't back down or give up. You are strong, stubborn and stable. Eugenia's Web sites: eugenialast.com for confidential consultations, myspace.com/eugenialast for Eugenia's blog, astroadvice.com for fun

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

	2		8	1		3				
6			2		4					7
		2				8		6		
3				5					4	
7		9				1				
			7	2					3	
4										
		8		3	5			9		

Difficulty Level ★★★ 4/15
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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Saturday's SUDOKU Answer

2	3	6	1	9	7	4	8	5
4	8	7	2	5	3	9	1	6
1	9	5	6	4	8	7	2	3
3	6	4	8	1	9	5	7	2
9	2	1	7	3	5	8	6	4
7	5	8	4	2	6	1	3	9
6	4	9	3	8	1	2	5	7
8	7	2	5	6	4	3	9	1
5	1	3	9	7	2	6	4	8

Difficulty Level ★★★ 4/15

WONDERWORD® By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

YAKETY YAK Solution: 4 letters

S	E	L	D	I	T	K	N	D	U	O	L	A	R	O
U	T	T	E	R	A	R	E	T	T	A	H	C	R	H
E	E	N	A	A	L	A	W	B	L	S	O	A	S	L
R	L	L	E	R	K	M	S	U	U	N	T	I	K	E
E	E	B	T	M	P	E	F	G	S	E	R	A	T	C
B	T	T	B	T	M	R	L	U	T	E	E	A	O	T
B	A	R	U	A	A	O	L	A	B	P	H	C	N	U
A	C	O	Z	E	B	T	C	B	S	C	S	C	G	R
J	I	P	Z	L	A	I	I	N	T	H	E	E	U	E
A	F	E	U	T	N	G	A	I	O	S	R	N	E	L
R	I	R	I	U	O	R	H	U	R	I	F	T	I	K
G	T	O	M	S	R	C	T	T	Y	L	S	N	L	C
O	N	M	S	A	R	G	E	U	O	G	S	L	A	N
N	O	I	T	A	S	R	E	V	N	O	C	A	E	C
C	P	E	S	O	L	C	S	I	D	F	M	B	T	S

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Yesterday's Answer: Medical
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• 5-Liner	\$24	\$39
• 3-Liner with picture	\$24	\$42
• 5-Liner with picture	\$36	\$57

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Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

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- Saipan Tribune: All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

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Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

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Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.



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Find today's solution in this section

Rose scores 39, Bulls beat Celtics



CHICAGO (AP)—As if there wasn't enough drama already, the Chicago Bulls' season took another weird twist and this one involves coach Vinny Del Negro and executive vice president John Paxson.

It also overshadowed a crucial victory.

On a night when the Bulls boosted their playoff hopes by beating the Boston Celtics 101-93 behind Derrick Rose's career-high 39 points, the attention centered on a report that their top executive pushed their coach during a confrontation following a game last month.

"I'm not going to comment," Del Negro said. "I go about my job everyday no matter what happens. I'm a competitor. I've been involved in the game a long time. I love the challenge of it. All the other things that happen pretty much stay internally."

Yahoo! Sports, citing unidentified sources, reported Paxson shoved Del Negro twice in the chest and had to be restrained in a dispute after the March 30 home game against Phoenix over how much Joakim Noah played.

Paxson did not return a call from The AP seeking comment.

"This is an organizational issue, which we will handle internally," Bulls spokesman Tim Hallam said.

The "organizational issue" popped up at a time when the Bulls are trying to secure the eighth and final playoff spot in the Eastern Conference.

They lead Toronto by a game in the Eastern Conference, thanks to Rose's big effort and Kirk Hinrich's season-high 30 points, and will reach the postseason with a win at Charlotte on Wednesday or a loss by the Raptors to New York.

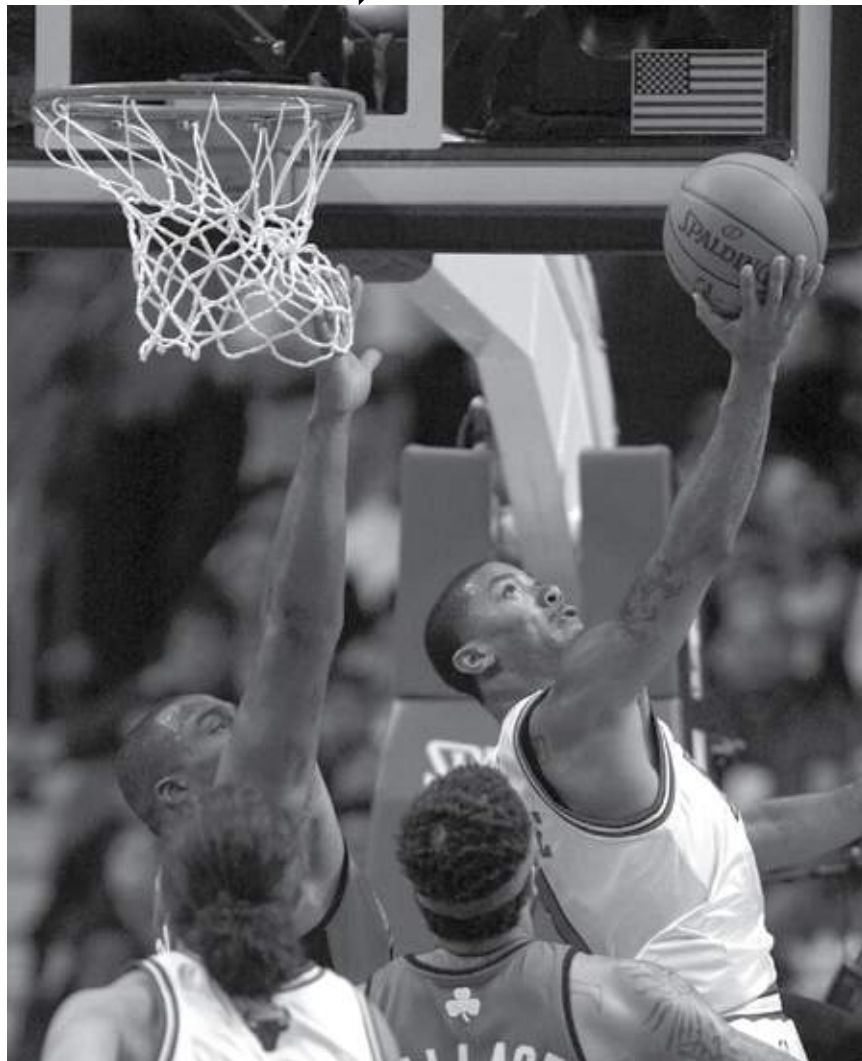
Fourth-place Boston, meanwhile, can forget about catching Atlanta for the third seed after losing for the sixth time in nine games.

"I thought we played hard in stretches," coach Doc Rivers said. "Rose was spectacular tonight. Him and Hinrich single-handedly carried the game for them."

Paul Pierce led the Celtics with 28 points, and Ray Allen scored 25. Kevin Garnett added 14 points and nine rebounds after sitting out the previous game to rest.

"One game left and we've got everyone healthy going into the playoffs, which was the No. 1 goal of the season," Pierce said.

The Bulls took control with a 14-4 run



Chicago Bulls guard Derrick Rose, right, shoots a reverse layup past the outstretched arm of Boston Celtics forward Glen Davis, left, as Joakim Noah and Rasheed Wallace watch during the first half of an NBA basketball game Tuesday, April 13, 2010, in Chicago.

to start the fourth, giving them an 81-72 lead, and hung on for a crucial victory.

Rose scored 17 in the fourth, and Hinrich added 10, including a buzzer-beating jumper that made it 95-88 with 43.7 seconds left. Rose then punctuated it with a breakaway finger roll, opting against the dunk with the crowd ready to explode, capping another wild night in a season that's had its share of twists.

There were the early struggles and a lukewarm endorsement from management, fueling speculation about Del Negro's job status. The Bulls recovered, but Noah developed plantar fasciitis in his left foot, causing him to miss 18 games and ultimately sparking the altercation that was reported on Tuesday.

According to Yahoo!, the Bulls have hired lawyers to interview witnesses about the incident.

"This is the NBA and things happen," Del Negro said. "Whether it's in practice

or a different situation, things are going to come out. You handle it. ... There's a lot of emotion involved in this game with all the things that happen on a daily basis."

According to Yahoo!, Bulls management wasn't happy after Noah played 27 minutes against Portland on Feb. 26. He sat out the next three weeks and has seen his playing time increase since his return, yet the issue popped up again during Chicago's double-overtime loss to New Jersey.

Noah played just 12 seconds after regulation because, Del Negro said, he had reached his 35-minute limit. Then general manager Gar Forman told reporters management had approved playing him beyond the limit because of the magnitude of the game.

"I don't want to talk about it," Noah said. "Things happen in an organization. ... I don't think it's fair for us as players to be talking about that stuff."

It's nothing. Really, it's nothing."

Lakers 106, Kings 100

At Los Angeles, Pau Gasol had 28 points and eight rebounds, Shannon Brown scored 24 points and Kobe Bryant rested as the Los Angeles Lakers finished their regular-season home schedule with a victory over the Sacramento Kings.

Sasha Vujacic scored 13 points for the Lakers.

Tyreke Evans scored 10 points for the Kings before his remarkable rookie season ended with a third-quarter ejection as Sacramento wrapped up its fourth straight losing season with an 11th defeat in 12 games.

Bryant sat out to rest his litany of injuries, including a sprained ankle and a broken finger.

Jazz 103, Warriors 94

At Oakland, California, Mehmet Okur had 23 points and seven rebounds, and Paul Millsap grabbed a career-high 24 rebounds as Utah swept the three-game season series against Golden State despite losing leading scorer Carlos Boozer to an early injury.

Boozer strained his right ribcage while playing all 12 minutes of the opening period. He was taken to the locker room for X-rays at the start of the second quarter but didn't return. He had five points and four rebounds before departing.

The Jazz wrap up the season Wednesday at home against Phoenix in a game that will determine both teams' playoff seedings. Utah, riding a 10-game home winning streak, could be as high as the No. 2 seed or fall to fifth.

Suns 123, Nuggets 101

At Phoenix, Amare Stoudemire scored 26 points, and Steve Nash had 18 points and 10 assists before sitting out the fourth quarter as Phoenix completed a rout of Denver to earn homecourt advantage in the first round of the playoffs.

The Suns made 14 of 24 3-pointers, 11 of 17 in the first three quarters. Phoenix jumped to an 18-2 lead and the Nuggets never cut it to single digits after the first quarter.

The Suns can finish no worse than No. 4 in the West and would be No. 3 if they win at Utah on Wednesday. Denver, which finished its regular season, would get the No. 4 spot and a first-round home-court edge if Phoenix beats the Jazz.

Carmelo Anthony scored 29 points to lead the Nuggets.

NEW YORK (AP)—Charles Barkley wonders if the Cleveland Cavaliers are resting LeBron James too much, but doesn't see anything stopping them from winning their first NBA title.

Not a banged-up Kobe Bryant and the defending champion Los Angeles Lakers. And certainly not the aging Boston Celtics, who the Hall of Famer believes have too much mileage on their legs to mount a real threat.

"When you get older and people say, 'When we get healthy,'" Barkley said Tuesday during a conference call. "Older people die, they don't get healthier."

Cleveland and Boston could meet in the second round, and Barkley sees the Cavaliers advancing.

"I think the Cavaliers are going to win the whole thing," he said.

Barkley picks Cavs to win it all

Barkley and fellow TNT analysts Kevin McHale and Doug Collins all agree that a potential Cleveland-Orlando matchup would make a terrific Eastern Conference final, with the winner likely meeting the Lakers for the championship.

But they aren't ready to guarantee Los Angeles a third straight trip to the NBA finals.

"The Lakers appear to be the team to beat (in the West), but they've got a lot of question marks right now," Collins said, listing Bryant's condition, their depth if Andrew Bynum isn't healthy, and their ability to defend quick point guards.

McHale said he would be less surprised than others if the

Lakers weren't in the finals, especially after getting a look at Bryant's broken right index finger when the reigning NBA finals MVP appeared recently on the NBA TV studio show that features McHale. The injury has caused Bryant to shoot poorly late in the season.

"His finger looks just as bad as it did during the All-Star game. I was surprised it didn't look a lot better," McHale said. "That thing is really, really looking bad. The swelling hasn't gone down. It still looks really, really funky."

Fear of injuries is part of the reason Cavaliers coach Mike Brown has rested James the last three games with home-court

advantage throughout the NBA finals already secured. He may consider playing the league's MVP Wednesday in the season finale against Atlanta, when Shaquille O'Neal is expected to return from his thumb injury.

Barkley thinks James probably should play. He felt it was a mistake that he, Kevin Johnson and Dan Majerle rested so much after Phoenix wrapped everything up in 1993. The Suns were rusty when they opened the playoffs against the Lakers and immediately fell into a 2-0 hole at home, forcing them to play more games than necessary before eventually reaching the finals.

"I'm a little surprised they've

rested LeBron as much as possible," Barkley said. "It's not like he's 39 years old, so I think Cleveland has to really be careful."

The Celtics once looked like the biggest threat to Cleveland, but have struggled over the second half of the season and don't defend nearly as well as they did while winning the 2008 championship.

"You can see they're not the same. The energy level is not the same," Barkley said.

"I think the Celtics went for it, they won a championship, and now they're just an older team. Kevin Garnett is one of my favorite players. You can just tell he's not the same player."

The postseason opens Saturday, and TNT begins its coverage with three games Sunday.

NBA BRIEFS

Bynum still on target for playoff return

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Andrew Bynum says he's on track to return to the Los Angeles Lakers in time for their first playoff game this weekend. Bynum missed his 12th straight game Tuesday with a strained left Achilles' tendon, but the 7-foot center says his rehabilitation is progressing well. After running on an anti-gravity treadmill Monday, he was scheduled to run on a regular treadmill Tuesday night. Coach Phil Jackson thinks Bynum will be able to practice with the top-seeded Lakers on Friday and Saturday before they open the playoffs Sunday against eighth-seeded Oklahoma City. Bynum is averaging 15 points and 8.3 rebounds this season while making 57 percent of his shots and blocking 94 shots. Lamar Odom has replaced him in the Lakers' starting lineup.

Lakers to play exhibitions in London, Barcelona

ELSEGUNDO, Calif. (AP)—The Los Angeles Lakers will play exhibition games in London and Spain next season. They will open the preseason on Oct. 4 against Minnesota at London's O2 Arena. They'll play Regal FC Barcelona in Spain three days later as part of NBA Europe Live 2010. Their other road games include playing Sacramento in Las Vegas on Oct. 13; Utah in Anaheim on Oct. 19; and Golden State in San Diego on Oct. 21 and in Ontario the next day. The Lakers' annual shootout at Staples Center on Oct. 16-17 features Denver, Utah and the Clippers.

Nelson plans to return to Warriors

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—Now that he's the winningest coach in NBA history, Don Nelson has a new project planned for his final go as Golden State's coach next season: turning Andris Biedrins into a decent free-throw shooter. With an underhand shot, no less. Nelson insists Biedrins will do it this time after previous suggestions of such a change. Biedrins, sidelined the last 23 games following March 10 surgery to repair a small tear of an abdominal muscle and 48 total, made just 4 of 25 from the line this season—and Nelson says he was less aggressive going to the basket to avoid having to shoot free throws. Nelson reiterated before Tuesday night's final home game against the Jazz he would return next season to fulfill the final year of his contract for the Warriors, and general manager Larry Riley said that would be the case barring any unforeseen circumstances.

World Series champs win home opener



NEW YORK
(AP) —

Andy Pettitte hit the corners, Derek Jeter homered into the right-center field stands, Jorge Posada rambled into second base for a double. And for good measure, Mariano Rivera closed it out with a cutter.

Don't tell the Yankees' core four it's 2010.

The longtime All-Stars each picked up World Series ring No. 5, then led New York to a victory in its home opener Tuesday, 7-5 over the Los Angeles Angels in front of a record crowd that included owner George Steinbrenner.

"Everyone talks about how long we've been here but in our minds it seems like we are just still little kids," said Jeter, the AL Rookie of the Year in 1996. "We want to come out here and contribute and try and be consistent. That's what we tried to do throughout the years and that'll never change."

The Angels' Hideki Matsui might have gotten the loudest ovation of the stirring ceremony that celebrated the Yankees' 27th title, with fans welcoming back the World Series MVP. But the four stars who last won a title in 2000 wound up winners in the end.

"They all played big roles last year, as well," Yankees manager Joe Girardi said. "Andy won the last game at the Stadium last year and won the first one this year—pretty fitting. Derek had some big hits, Jorgie. Mo closed it out. It is appropriate."

With the 2009 World Series banner whipping in a chilly breeze, Pettitte (1-0) returned to the Yankee Stadium mound for the first time since he won the clinching Game 6 against Philadelphia last November. He threw 100 pitches in six crisp innings as the Yankees dropped the Angels to 2-6, their worst start since 1972.

The 40-year-old Rivera was needed to earn his third save after another ex-Yankee, Bobby Abreu, hit a grand slam in the ninth off Dave Robertson to make it 7-5.

"Obviously we did too many things poorly early in the game and had to crawl our way back



Los Angeles Angels' Hideki Matsui is embraced by former New York Yankees teammate Alex Rodriguez after Matsui received his 2009 World Series ring before their baseball game in New York on Tuesday, April 13, 2010.

and it was too little too late," Angels manager Mike Scioscia said. "There's definitely some things we need to clean up the way we're playing ball this week."

Matsui was mobbed by his former teammates near the mound after getting his ring in the pregame festivities. He was regaled with a prolonged standing salute when he stepped into the batter's box in the first inning.

"I was very deeply moved by that moment. It's something that I did not anticipate at all," he said through a translator. "It's something that I will remember forever, that moment. I'm just very happy and very thankful, the way that the fans had welcomed me back."

The Angels' designated hitter stepped out and tipped his helmet before striking out—another cheer—to end the inning and got tangled with Posada, who playfully tagged him a couple of times. Matsui went 0 for 5 in front of a record regular-season crowd of 49,293 at the ballpark, now in its second year.

"The fans wanted him to

tip his hat. I just felt he deserved that so I stepped off the mound," Pettitte said. "As soon as he steps in the box, it's just put your head down. You better make good pitches to him."

Jeter, who led off the Yankees' last regular-season home game with a home run, hit his first homer of the year in the fourth and hit a sharp grounder off Ervin Santana's thigh for another RBI in the fifth.

Nick Johnson also homered for New York, who hit a team-record 136 homers in their first year at the ballpark. The most home runs across 161st Street, now a fading memory—thanks to a wrecking crew—was 126 in 2004 and '05.

Mariners 3, Athletics 0

At Seattle, Milton Bradley hit a three-run homer in the eighth inning to power the Mariners to a much-needed 3-0 victory over the Oakland Athletics.

Blue Jays 4, White Sox 2

At Toronto, Ricky Romero's bid

for a no-hitter ended in the eighth when former teammate Alex Rios homered.

Romero struck out a career-high 12 and was in complete control until hitting A.J. Pierzynski with a pitch to start the eighth. Rios followed with a no-doubt drive to deep left for Chicago's only hit.

Kevin Gregg worked the ninth for his third save as Toronto won for the 11th time in 12 games against the White Sox at Rogers Centre.

Gavin Floyd allowed four runs and nine hits in six innings for Chicago.

Rays 8, Orioles 6, 10 innings

At Baltimore, Carlos Pena hit a three-run homer off Matt Albers in the 10th inning as Tampa Bay extended the Orioles' early season swoon.

It was the fifth straight loss for the Orioles, whose 1-7 start is their worst since they opened the 1988 season with 21 straight defeats.

Tigers 6, Royals 5

At Detroit, Carlos Guillen's two-run double capped a six-run rally in the seventh inning and the Detroit Tigers pulled off another big comeback.

Jose Guillen hit his fourth home run in three games as the Royals took a 5-0 lead against Dontrelle Willis and the Detroit bullpen. But just like Sunday, when the Tigers fell behind 5-0 to Cleveland, they recovered to win.

The Tigers hadn't gotten a runner past first in the first six innings against Kansas City, then rallied against four pitchers. Dusty Hughes didn't retire either batter he faced.

Reliever Joel Zumaya won and Jose Valverde pitched a perfect ninth for his second save.

Dodgers 9, Diamondbacks 5

At Los Angeles, Manny Ramirez homered for the first time this season, the first of four longballs by the Dodgers, as Los Angeles beat the Arizona Diamondbacks to win its home opener for the third consecutive year.

Casey Blake hit a two-run drive, Matt Kemp added a solo shot and Andre Ethier hit a three-run homer for the Dodgers. Blake went 1 for 2 with a walk and is batting .389, carrying over his strong spring into the regular season.

Ramirez, Kemp and Ethier homered in the same game for the second time since Ramirez joined the Dodgers in 2008.

Clayton Kershaw (1-0) allowed two runs and three hits in 5 1-3 innings for Los Angeles.

Ian Kennedy (0-1) gave up six runs and six hits over 4 1-3 innings in his first game against the Dodgers.

Reds 10, Marlins 8, 11 innings

At Miami, Joey Votto drove in the

go-ahead run with a two-out single in the 11th inning as Cincinnati beat Florida in extra innings for the second night in a row.

Jonny Gomes and Ryan Hanigan hit three-run homers for the Reds. Brandon Phillips had four hits, including an RBI single in the 11th.

The Reds won despite blowing a 6-1 lead. They beat the Marlins 6-5 in 10 innings in the series opener Monday.

Jorge Cantu of Florida singled home a run and became the first player since 1921 to have at least one hit and one RBI in the first eight games of a season. Dan Meyer (0-1) got the loss.

Micah Owings (2-0) struck out three in two scoreless innings. Francisco Cordero pitched a perfect 11th for his fourth save in four chances.

Pirates 6, Giants 5

At San Francisco, Garrett Jones had three hits and two RBIs, including the go-ahead run in the eighth inning, as the Pittsburgh Pirates beat the Giants.

Akinori Iwamura and Andy LaRoche homered for the Pirates, who ended a six-game losing streak at AT&T Park. It was their first victory in San Francisco since September 2008.

Evan Meek pitched two scoreless innings for the win and Octavio Dotel allowed two runs in the ninth before finishing for his second save in two opportunities.

Eugenio Velez homered and drove in three runs for the Giants, who lost for just the second time.

Rockies 11, Mets 3

At Denver, Greg Smith won for the first time in 19 months, riding a six-run third inning by Colorado to the victory.

Smith struck out eight over seven innings, allowing two runs and six hits. He replaced fellow lefthander Jeff Francis in the Rockies' rotation at the end of spring training.

Smith also collected his first career RBIs when he stroked a run-scoring double into the left-field alley in the third and plated another run with a fielder's choice groundout in the seventh.

New York's John Maine (0-1) equaled a career high by allowing eight runs in just three innings. He also yielded seven hits and walked three.



RENTON, Wash.

(AP)—The Seahawks have told linebacker Leroy Hill to stay away from this week's minicamp to deal with his personal issues.

Coach Pete Carroll said after practice Tuesday that he and general manager John Schneider advised Hill it was "best for him to take care of some things" rather than attend Seattle's voluntary three-day minicamp.

Hill was arrested for investigation of domestic violence in the Seattle suburb of Issaquah

Seahawks tell LB Hill to stay home

over the weekend, just days after reaching a plea deal on a marijuana charge in Georgia.

The four-year starter with the Seahawks was arrested by Issaquah police and booked into that city's jail early Sunday for investigation of assault in the fourth degree/domestic violence. He was taken into custody without incident. Hill posted bail and was released.

A copy of the Issaquah police report says the domestic issue with Hill's girlfriend Saturday

night stemmed from his alleged infidelity based upon numbers she found on the player's cell phone. The report states both the woman and Hill called the police.

The girlfriend, who reported she'd been with Hill for four years, told police Hill pulled her down stairs by her ponytail in the home they apparently share. She said Hill left visible scratch marks on her arm, photos of which were noted to have been included in the partially redacted police report.

Hill told police he was sleeping when his girlfriend searched listings in his phone "and that she found out he was seeing other girls." Hill reported there was "nothing physical" that took place between him and his girlfriend in the incident.

The incident could be an issue with the probation he received two weeks ago from a marijuana charge in Georgia. On April 1, Hill got 12 months of probation after pleading guilty to a charge of marijuana possession

stemming from a January 2009 traffic stop in suburban Atlanta.

As part of his plea in Georgia, Hill agreed to complete an outpatient drug and alcohol abuse counseling program and 30 hours of community service.

Hill, who has started 61 of his 67 career games for Seattle, must also pay fines in Georgia totaling \$500. He is subject to random drug testing. If he completes all the requirements in 12 months, he can petition the court to have the conviction erased from his record

under the jurisdiction's conditional discharge program.

The 27-year-old could be subject to testing and possible discipline in the NFL's confidential substance abuse program.

Carroll wouldn't comment Tuesday about Hill's future with the Seahawks.

Schneider said Monday the team was "still in the process of gathering information."

The first-year GM added "we are aware of the situation involving Leroy Hill and take these issues very seriously. We will wait to receive all the facts before commenting further."

HEO

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of two non-Australian player to make it to the Top 10 seed-ing. The other was Hong Kong

EUROPE’S

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Underdog French

France lost to Italy in 2006 and the former’s chances for a back-to-back finals appearance do not look good.

Critics say the departure of Zinedine Zidane, Fabien Bar-thez, Claude Makelele and Lil-ian Thuram on the squad makes the *Les Bleus* an ordinary team. France is left with only a few veterans and several injured players, like former captain Pat-rick Vieira and Arsenal central defender William Gallas

“France is in danger of bomb-ing out of the 2010 FIFA World Cup in the first round unless they dramatically raise their game,” Chelsea striker Nicolas Anelka was quoted as saying in the FIFA website.

France, which almost missed this year’s World Cup, is seeded last in Group A, joining South Africa, Mexico, and Uruguay.

Hungry Danes; Surging Swiss

Denmark missed two premium events—the 2006 World Cup in Germany and the 2008 Euro Cup in Austria and Switzerland, so the Danes are raring to prove their

ST ANDREW

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and their crew who took part in the one-day competition.

“It seems like everyone had a good time. Most of the guys came in with mahi-mahi and everybody got some kind of fish on their boat,” he said.

Guerrero added that although

MP

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3-1 halftime lead. Neither team scored in the second half, pre-serving Matansa’s win.

Tan Holdings FC-1, MP United-White O

Tan Holdings FC-1 kept its spot in the Top 3 after 1-0 triumph over MP United-White.

Michael Park made the lone goal in the game in the 39th minute, giving Tan Holdings FC-1 its third win against one draw and one loss. MP United-White absorbed its third loss in five games, as the team dropped to a tie for fifth place with Paire Black and Tan Holdings FC-2.

Paire Black 2, Inde-pendents 2

The last game in the boys U14 between Paire-Black and Inde-pendents ended in a 2-2 draw.

Wesley Emul and Jerome Sapo scored one goal apiece for Independents, while Jeff Cheon

bet and world No. 376 Kwun Ho James Kong. World No. 1 Joey Swaysland of Australia is seeded first in the 45-player draw.

Heo’s tormentor in the second round in the 2010 Australian In-

worth in South Africa.

The Danes made their way to the 2010 World Cup with an im-pressive 10-1 record in Euro’s Group 1, finishing ahead of fa-vored Portugal and Sweden.

In South Africa, Denmark will be boast of players with vast international experience, like captain Jon Dahl Tomas-son and midfield trio of Daniel Jensen, Christian Poulsen, and Dennis Rommedahl.

The Swiss got off to a bad start in the World Cup quali-fier, drawing Israel and losing to lowly-regarded Luxembourg before making a rally, winning four games and drawing two, to make the trip to South Africa.

Switzerland is on its ninth World Cup appearance and is in good hands with Europe’s re-spected coach Ottmar Hitzfeld out to help the Swiss go farther than the quarterfinals.

Overachieving Slovenians, Greeks

Seeing these countries on the list of World Cup qualifiers were one of the surprises of the year.

Slovenia made it to South Af-rica by beating Poland, Czech Republic, and Russia in Eu-ropo’s Group 3.

“For a small country like ours, it’s an incredible achievement to

the weather Saturday was not really ideal for fishing, the 2010 Mahi Derby still went well.

“It may have been a little bit windy. There were a lot of guys who were really, really wet when they came back. I saw a lot of guys who were soaked and sunburned but it was not too bad. What’s important was everyone got back,” he said.

Guerrero also thanked Pacific

and Ethan Dickinson gave Paire Black one goal each.

GIRLS U14 Matansa 5, Paire 0

In the first girls U14 game, Tahlia Hideo had another hat-trick, leading Matansa to a 5-0 win over Paire.

Hideo, who scored three goals in their 4-0 win against MP United on March 27, added three more goals to her collec-tion for a total of eight—the most so far in the girls U14. Also scoring for Matansa was Doreen Ravell and Patricia Mae Echavez.

The win was Matansa’s fifth in as many games, giving the team a two-win advantage over Paire.

MP United 2, Tan Holdings 1

In the other game in the girls U14, MP United edged Tan Holdings, 2-1.

Amy Taylor found the back of the net twice to power MP United to its second win in five games. Kyla Imdel Ito scored

ternational Tournament is still unseeded in the Gallipoli Ju-nior ITF and can possibly cross paths with the CNMI bet anew. Wynan is ranked No. 1,170 in the world.

After the tournament in

qualify for a World Cup. Before this qualification series started, nobody was giving this young team hope. But now, the play-ers and the whole country are proud of our success. We want to show that, small as we are, we can compete with the best,” Slovenia striker Milivoje Nova-kovic was quoted as saying in the FIFA website.

Greece surprised the world with its win in the Euro Cup 2004 and stunned football fans anew after qualifying for the World Cup for only the second time.

The Greeks continued pulling off upsets against favored teams behind Theofanis Gekas and Angelos Charisteas, top scorer in European Zone qualifying and scorer of the winner in the final at Euro 2004, respectively.

First-timers Serbia, Slovakia

Serbia will be making its World Cup debut as in independent nation after being part of two dis-banded teams: Montenegro and Yugoslavia.

However, Serbia is heading for a tough task in its first World Cup appearance, having drawn Ger-many, Australia, and Ghana in one of the “Groups of Death.”

Leading the Serbians to the

Trading Co., Shell Marianas, Advance Pest Control and Air-conditioning, Docomo Pacific, Division of Fish and Wildlife, Emergency Management Of-fice, DPS Boating Safety, and Marianas Visitors Authority for helping make the 6th Annual Mahi Derby a success.

“We couldn’t have done this without them,” he said. *(Saipan Tribune)*

the loan goal for Tan Holdings, which had only one victory after five matches.

BOYS U18 Paire 5, Matansa 0

In the first boys U18 game, Paire took the lead in the four-team field after blanking Matansa, 5-0, at the CPA Field.

Paire now has a 4-0-1 slate, ahead by one win against MP United (3-1-1).

Paire drew two goals from Vin-cent Palacios and one each from Joseph Ichihara, Abraham Tosi-wo, and Evert Van Der Maas.

MP United 1, Independents 1

MP United failed to keep the lead as its game against Independents resulted only to a 1-1 draw.

Kun Han Cook scored MP United’s lone goal, while Inde-pendent’ John Lee also made it to the scoreboard to force a draw.

The lone game in the girls U18 between Matansa and Paire was forfeited in favor of the former.

Australia, Heo will return to the CNMI and stay here for a couple of months before go-ing to New Caledonia to be part of a pilot program called Oceanien Pole.

The program is a four-

daunting mission in South Af-rica is 2008-2009 English Premier League’s player of the season Nem-anja Vidic of Manchester United.

The Slovaks, when they were still part of Czechoslovakia, had been to the World Cup eight

month junior player develop-ment plan consisting of train-ing in New Caledonia with a small elite junior squad, local competition, and participation in eight international tourna-ments. Heo is one of only five

times. However, since competing as Slovakia beginning 1993, the Slovaks’ trip to South Africa will be their first World Cup stint.

Slovakia advanced to the World Cup after topping Europe’s Group 3 and is drawn with defending

players invited for the pro-gram. The four others were Papua New Guinea’s Abigail Tere-Apisah and Marcia Tere-Apisah, Samoa’s Steffi Car-ruthers, and New Caledonia’s Anaeve Pail.

champion Italy, Paraguay, and New Zealand in Group F.

The Slovaks have no big names on their roster, but this could work to their advantage, as they will be unpredictable and will rely on team effort.



TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
y-Boston	50	31	.617	—
Toronto	39	42	.481	11
New York	29	52	.358	21
Philadelphia	27	54	.333	23
New Jersey	12	69	.148	38

Southeast Division

y-Orlando	58	23	.716	—
x-Atlanta	52	29	.642	6
x-Miami	46	35	.568	12
x-Charlotte	44	37	.543	14
Washington	25	56	.309	33

Central Division

z-Cleveland	61	20	.753	—
x-Milwaukee	45	36	.556	16
Chicago	40	41	.494	21
Indiana	32	49	.395	29
Detroit	26	55	.321	35

WESTERN CONFERENCE Southwest Division

y-Dallas	54	27	.667	—
x-San Antonio	50	31	.617	4
Houston	42	39	.519	12
Memphis	40	41	.494	14
New Orleans	36	45	.444	18

Northwest Division

x-Utah	53	28	.654	—
x-Denver	53	29	.646	1/2
x-Portland	50	31	.617	3
x-Oklahoma City	49	32	.605	4
Minnesota	15	66	.185	38

Pacific Division

z-L.A. Lakers	57	24	.704	—
x-Phoenix	53	28	.654	4
L.A. Clippers	28	53	.346	29
Golden State	25	56	.309	32
Sacramento	25	57	.305	32 1/2

x-clinched playoff spot

y-clinched division

z-clinched conference

Yesterday’s Games

Chicago 101, Boston 93
Utah 103, Golden State 94
L.A. Lakers 106, Sacramento 100
Phoenix 123, Denver 101

NBA LEADERS

Scoring

	G	FG	FT	PTS	AVG
Durant, OKC	81	782	751	2441	30.1
James, CLE	76	768	593	2258	29.7
Anthony, DEN	68	675	506	1914	28.1
Bryant, LAL	73	716	439	1970	27.0
Wade, MIA	77	719	534	2045	26.6
Ellis, GOL	62	613	284	1583	25.5
Nowitzki, DAL	80	712	534	2008	25.1
Granger, IND	61	484	355	1480	24.3
Bosh, TOR	70	600	470	1678	24.0
Stoudemire, PHX	80	688	473	1850	23.1
Roy, POR	65	491	343	1398	21.5
Johnson, ATL	76	635	220	1619	21.3
Randolph, MEM	80	644	357	1660	20.8
Jackson, CHA	80	594	338	1653	20.7
Rose, CHI	76	647	245	1553	20.4
Evans, SAC	71	528	348	1440	20.3
Lee, NYK	80	678	265	1621	20.3
Maggette, GOL	70	457	460	1387	19.8
Boozer, UTA	77	615	284	1514	19.7
Brooks, HOU	81	570	245	1592	19.7

FG Percentage

	FG	FGA	PCT
Howard, ORL	504	826	.610
Perkins, BOS	313	519	.603
Hilario, DEN	417	711	.586
Gasol, MEM	378	651	.581
Bynum, LAL	392	688	.570
Boozer, UTA	615	1093	.563
Stoudemire, PHX	688	1236	.557
Horford, ATL	467	847	.551
Lee, NYK	678	1241	.546
Millsap, UTA	377	694	.543

Rebounds

	G	OFF	DEF	TOT	AVG
Howard, ORL	81	283	787	1070	13.2
Camby, POR	74	249	622	871	11.8
Randolph, MEM	80	327	612	939	11.7
Lee, NYK	80	222	716	938	11.7
Boozer, UTA	77	181	689	870	11.3
Bosh, TOR	70	205	554	759	10.8
Murphy, IND	71	125	603	728	10.3
Wallace, CHA	75	149	612	761	10.1
Duncan, SAN	78	221	567	788	10.1
Horford, ATL	81	236	563	799	9.9

Assists

	G	AST	AVG
Nash, PHX	79	871	11.0
Paul, NOR	45	480	10.7
Williams, UTA	74	785	10.6
Rondo, BOS	79	773	9.8
Kidd, DAL	79	721	9.1
James, CLE	76	651	8.6
Davis, LAC	75	598	8.0
Westbrook, OKC	81	645	8.0
Harris, NJN	63	420	6.7
Wade, MIA	77	501	6.5

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto	6	2	.750	—
New York	5	2	.714	1/2
Tampa Bay	5	3	.625	1
Boston	3	4	.429	2 1/2
Baltimore	1	7	.125	5

Central Division

Detroit	6	2	.750	—
Minnesota	6	2	.750	—
Chicago	3	5	.375	3
Kansas City	3	5	.375	3
Cleveland	2	5	.286	3 1/2

West Division

Oakland	6	3	.667	—
Texas	4	3	.571	1
Seattle	3	6	.333	3
Los Angeles	2	6	.250	3 1/2

NATIONAL LEAGUE East Division

Philadelphia	6	1	.857	—
Florida	4	4	.500	2 1/2
Atlanta	3	4	.429	3
Washington	3	4	.429	3
New York	2	5	.286	4

Central Division

St. Louis	5	2	.714	—
Cincinnati	5	3	.625	1/2
Pittsburgh	4	4	.500	1 1/2
Chicago	3	4	.429	2
Milwaukee	3	4	.429	2
Houston	0	7	.000	5

West Division

San Francisco	6	2	.750	—
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Arizona	4	3	.571	1 1/2
Colorado	4	3	.571	1 1/2
Los Angeles	3	4	.429	2 1/2
San Diego	3	4	.429	2 1/2

Yesterday’s Games

L.A. Dodgers 9, Arizona 5
Cincinnati 10, Florida 8, 11 innings
Colorado 11, N.Y. Mets 3
Pittsburgh 6, San Francisco 5
Detroit 6, Kansas City 5
N.Y. Yankees 7, L.A. Angels 5
Tampa Bay 8, Baltimore 6, 10 innings
Toronto 4, Chicago White Sox 2
Seattle 3, Oakland 0

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOCAL SCORES

POHNPEI SOFTBALL STANDINGS

Men’s

Faha	4	0
G-Ballers-1	4	0
Saipal	3	0
Natibu	3	1
Keper	3	1
Cha-cha Lancheros	3	2
Flyers	3	2
Sofang	2	1
Grouper	2	2
Go-for Broke	2	2
Team Pingelap	2	2
Young Buds	2	2
Gaga-Tasi	2	2
Na Chagi Fan	1	1
Sakudi	1	2
Calikano	1	2
Young Guns	1	3
Team OSHA	1	3
San Roque	1	3
Team Extreme	1	3
Hilitai	1	4
G-Ballers-2	0	4

Women’s

Aguaquat	4	0
Enamu Meta	3	1
Hitters	2	2
Mesenieng	1	2
670-Serepein	1	2
S.R. Rookies	0	4

NMIFA YOUTH STANDINGS Boys U14

	MP	W	D	L	G	F	G	A	G	D	PTS.
MP United-Blue	5	4	1	0	25	4	+21	13			

More students join All Schools trials

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



Less than a month before the 2010 All Schools Track and Field Championship kicks off at the Oleai Sports Complex track and field facility, more than 100 student-athletes joined the qualifiers held in the second week of April.

In the boys U8 100m, Brilliant Stars' Dylan, Blake, and Logan Mister, and Cole Chambers competed in the April 5 trials for the All Schools, which will run from May 13 to 15.

In the boys U10 softball throw trials on April 6, the participants were San Antonio Elementary School's Franco Bondoc, Mareko Tekopua, Paulo and Ralph Rafols, and Martin Madamba and San Vicente's Kevin and Luis Ogo, and Richard Benavente.

Only the Top 8 student-athletes in each event are eligible to compete in the All Schools. The two remaining slots are reserved for Rota and Tinian students. In case Tinian and Rota do not have participants in an event, the next two finishers will take the slots. Also, student-athletes are allowed to join only four events.

At the end of the qualifiers, NMA will compile all records and select the qualifiers. The last qualifying week is from April 26 to 29.

In the championships, the Top 3 students in each event will receive medals, while NMA will award trophies to the Top 3 schools.

During the April 7 qualifier,



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Marianas High School's Jim Lacsina warms up for the discus throw during yesterday's qualifier for the All Schools meet at the Oleai Sports Complex track and field facility.

NMA held trials in six events in various age groups: 100m, 200m, 1,500m, and 4x100m relay runs, long jump, and softball throw.

Koblerville Elementary School, Garapan Elementary School, Dandan Elementary School, and Saipan Community School joined

the April 7 qualifier.

The April 8 qualifiers were for high school and junior high school students from SCS, Marianas High School, Kagman High School, Saipan Southern High School, and Hopwood Junior High School.

Events scheduled for the high

school and junior high school were the 100m, 200m, 1,500m, and 4x100m relay runs, long jump, shot put, and discus.

The trials continued on Monday with Tanapag Elementary School joining the trials in the 400m, 800m, and 4x400m run, and javelin throw.

Cruz makes hole-in-one; Jang takes SGA April Ace

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



Newcomer Steve Jang and John Cruz shared center stage during Saipan Golf Association's April Ace Tournament with the former winning the monthly event and the latter hitting a hole-in-one shot on Sunday at the Laolao Bay Golf Resort.

Jang carded a net 67 to beat 16 others for the April Ace title, while Cruz finished only fourth, but took the biggest prize (\$500) of the day when he sank a hole-in-one on the par-3, 158-yard hole No. 13 on the west course.

Cruz was only the second SGA member to hit a hole-in-one. Eun Jung Taek was the first one when he did the same feat on the par-3 hole No. 17 hole, also on the west course of the Kagman golf course three years ago.

Besides the \$500 he got from SGA, Cruz is awaiting a complimentary gift from Laolao, which usually gives rewards to hole-in-one winners.

Meanwhile, Jang highlighted his April Ace win with four birdies (holes No. 8, 10, 12, and 18) and finished with a 40 and



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Steve Jang tees off in one of the holes on the west course of the Laolao Bay Golf Resort on Sunday during the SGA April Ace tournament.

36 on the front and back nines. He holds a 9 handicap for a gross 76 and net 67.

Fives strokes off Jang's score was another new SGA member—Nick Sablan. The

5-handicapper Sablan shot a 41 on the back nine and improved his game on the back with a 36 for a gross 77 and net 72.

Completing the Top 3 was Ben Aldan, who drilled a net 73. The 23-handicapper got off to a slow start with a 53 on the back before closing out strong with a 43 for a gross 96.

Others who joined last weekend's tournament and their net scores in parentheses were Cruz (74), Tony Deleon Guerrero (75), Edward Sablan (76), Jose I. Sablan (76), Teack (76), Frances Sablan (76), Larry I. Deleon Guerrero (78), Joe Deleon Guerrero (79), Steve Balakrishna (80), Ray San Nicolas (81), Edward Manibusan (83), Vince Rosario (84), Nobert Sablan (86), and Art Deleon Guerrero (95).

Manibusan and San Nicolas won the longest drive contest on holes No. 1 and 18, respectively. In the greenies category, San Nicolas topped holes No. 3 and 7, while Tony Deleon Guerrero won on No. 17.

Nick Sablan was second to Jang in the most birdies scored with the former's three. Joe Deleon Guerrero, Manibusan, and San Nicolas had two birdies each, while Balakrishna, Art and Tony Deleon Guerrero, and Teack made one apiece.

Aguagat still perfect in '10 Pohnpei league

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



Aguagat remained unbeaten in the women's division of the 2010 Pohnpei Amateur

Softball League.

League-leading Aguagat cruised to its fourth win in as many games after downing Hitters, 9-5, on Tuesday at the Capital Hill Ballfield.

A good start propelled Aguagat to a victory, as it scored five runs in the first inning against the Hitters' only one. In the second inning, Aguagat still outscored the Hitters, 3-2, to take an 8-3 lead.

Aguagat was held to only one run in the last five innings. However, it still protected the lead, as the Hitters continued its anemic performance on offense, making only two runs in the last five innings.

The Hitters dropped to an even 2-2 slate

MEN'S Gaga-Tasi 24, Young Guns 3

In the first game, Gaga-Tasi had a walk in the park against Young Guns, 24-3.

Gaga-Tasi's lopsided win came after only four-and-half innings, as the Young Guns run out of weapons from their arsenal.

A 15-run bottom of the fourth allowed Gaga-Tasi to break the game wide open, as it turned a 9-0 lead to a 24-0 count. Young Guns scored only at the top of the fifth inning, but their three runs were not enough to extend the game.

Gaga-Tasi improved to a 2-2 record, while Young Guns absorbed their third loss in four games.

Flyers 22, Grouper 5

The other men's division game also ended early with the Flyers whipping Grouper, 22-5.

The Flyers needed only four innings to gain their third win in five games. Grouper dropped to a 2-2 mark.

The Flyers were on top by only two, 5-7, after two innings when they shut out Grouper in the last two innings and then totaled 15 runs in the third and fourth inning for a 17-run win. The Flyers tallied 10 runs at the bottom of the fourth with no outs and could have scored more, but Grouper decided to call it a night and handed the win to the former.

Pacific Games golf second qualifier tomorrow at COP



The second qualifying tournament for the golf competition in the 2011 Pacific Games will be held Saturday at the Coral Ocean Point.

Check-in time is 11:30am, while tee time is at 12:30pm.

The series of qualifiers are held to select the five players who will represent the CNMI to the Pacific Games next year in New Caledonia. All scores of participants in the series of qualifiers will be compiled to determine the Top 5 golfers with the lowest total scores.

The third qualifier is scheduled for May 24, the fourth will be played on June 19 and the last two

will take place on July 19 and Aug. 21. Venues for third to sixth qualifying tournaments will be announced later. An optional seventh qualifier will also be set to allow golfers who will miss one of the regular six trials to make up. A golfer can

also use the seventh qualifier to drop his highest score in the first six qualifiers.

Meanwhile, organizers of the qualifiers are encouraging corporate and individual sponsors to help out the team by donating funds or becoming



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

A local golfer lines up a ball during a tournament last year at the Coral Ocean Point, which will host the second qualifier for the 2010 Pacific Games tomorrow.

ing the CNMI Golf Team's team sponsor.

For more information, contact Jess Wabol at 288-1129, Edward Manibusan at 235-6520, Jeff Taylor at 483-2513, or Jordon Kosam at 483-4506. (PR)



Rose scores 39,
Bulls beat
Celtics
24

Saipan Tribune Sports



28 THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 2010

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Heo wins debut in Brisbane tourney

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

CNMI junior netter Ji Hoon Heo started his bid in the 2010 Australian International Tournament on a winning note, nailing a straight set victory in the first round against Australia's George Wall on Tuesday.

Heo swept Hall, 6-2, 6-4, at the George Alder Tennis Center in Queensland, Brisbane, to advance to the second round

against Australia's Jake Wynan.

The CNMI

bet was seeded seventh in the tournament, having been ranked No. 645 in the world, entering the main draw of the Grade 4 event. Wynan was unseeded and pulled off an upset over Heo with a straight set victory in the second round, 6-3, 6-2, foiling the latter's bid for ITF Junior ranking points. Only those making it to the Round of 16 will get ranking points.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Ji Hoon Heo, seen here returning to Kirck Schuler during their game in the PIC netfest early this month, won his first game in Brisbane on Tuesday.

Heo was one of the three ranked players who were eliminated in the second round. The other two were No. 6 James Frawley and No. 11 Blake Mott, who are both from Australia. Frawley lost to David Di Stefano, 6-2, 4-6, 1-6, while Mott bowed to compatriot Brandon Woods also in three sets, 6-3, 3-6, 6-7 (4).

The six-day tournament that will run until April 17 is now in the Round of 16 with only eight seeded players surviving the competition. Top seed Nathan Lemke of Australia is still in contention, joining the company of No. 4 Mark Richards, No. 5 Nick Kyrgios, No. 8 Peter Solway, No. 9 Daniel Alameh, No. 12 James Sturtard, No. 13 Travis Boon, and No. 14 Luke Immanuel Harvey.

Meanwhile, next up for Heo will be the 2010 Gallipoli Junior ITF, which will be held on the same clay court from April 18 to 23.

Again, Heo is seeded in the Brisbane tournament. He is ranked No. 10 and is only one

See HEO on Page 26

MP United-Blue dominates Tan Holdings-2



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
An MP United-Blue goalie kicks the ball during their game against Matansa Football Club in the boys U14 division of the NMIFA youth league at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



MP United-Blue made one goal after

another en route to a 10-0 rout of Tan Holdings FC-2 during their game in the boys U14 division of the 2010 NMIFA Youth Football Spring League on Saturday at Hopwood Junior High School Field.

Nuri Gutzwiller-Malakut, Jehn Joyner, Chris Park, and Jake Lee tallied two goals apiece for MP United-Blue and Enrico Del Rosario chipped in one to lift the team to its fourth win in five games. MP United-Blue's 10th goal was an own goal.

The win gave MP United-Blue some distance from second-running Matansa FC (3-1-0 win-draw-loss record) and Tan Holdings FC-1 (3-1-1).

Matansa 3, Paire-Red 0

Matansa notched its third win in four games after a 3-1 victory over Paire-Red.

Sean Perez canned twin goals for Matansa in the first half, while Yoshi Ray Mafnas contributed one, also in the first half.

Mafnas broke into the scoreboard first with his goal in the 15th minute and four minutes later Perez put Matansa up, 2-0, with his first goal.

Joo Chan Park lit up Paire's scoreboard with his goal in the 29th minute and 10 minutes later, Perez answered with his second goal, leading Matansa to

See MP on Page 26

Europe's supporting cast in World Cup

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Editor's note: The Saipan Tribune today will feature eight of the 32 teams that advanced to the 2010 FIFA World Cup set from June 11 to July 11 in South Africa.



After the heavyweights, here comes Europe's supporting cast to the 2010 FIFA World Cup—Germany, France, Denmark, Greece, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, and Switzerland.



WWW.2010WORLD CUPNEWS.COM
The 2010 World Cup in South Africa will likely be German captain Michael Ballack's last chance to win the sport's ultimate prize.

Consistent Germans

Though they may not be as strong as the top-ranked Spaniards and as sensational as the Brits, the Germans are among the consistent top performers in World Cup. Among the members of Europe's supporting group, the No. 6-ranked Germans have the strongest chance to be promoted to the lead cast, joining the elite company of Spain, Portugal, Italy, England, and Brazil.

The Germans are three-time World Cup champions (1954, 1974 and 1990), the third winningest country behind Brazil (5) and Italy (4), and figured

in the World Cup finals for a record seven times (tied with Brazil). They finished third in 2006 and was second in the Euro Cup last year.

The 2006 World Cup host hopes these records will inspire them to aim for the fourth 18-carat solid gold trophy.

A fourth World Cup trophy will be fitting moment for captain Michael Ballack, who holds 97 senior caps to date, as South Africa is likely to be his last chance to be in center stage. Ballack and company are drawn with Australia, Serbia, and Ghana, and is favored to top Group D and easily advance to second round.

See EUROPE'S on Page 26

St. Andrew tops 2010 Mahi Derby



The *St. Andrew* topped last Saturday's 6th Annual Mahi Fishing Derby, which drew a total of 38 boats from Saipan and Tinian.

Skipped by Juan Roberto, the *St. Andrew* came into Smiling Cove Marina with a monster mahi-mahi that tipped the scales at 25.40 lbs. Roberto's crew included Steve Reyes and Phil Roberto.

Carmelita and *St. Patrick* tied for second place after both boats reeled in mahi-mahi with identi-

cal weight of 19.90 lbs. The former, however, took home second place after organizers went on the tiebreak based on the time the boats docked at the cove.

Carmelita and her crew, made up of captain Supreme Court associate justice Alex Castro and anglers Alex Castro Jr. and Koshiro Salvador, arrived at 4:17pm, while Dodong Salinas and Juanita Simitara of *St. Patrick* came in seven minutes later.

My Lady Gora and *Sea Ray* complete the Top 5 in last Saturday's 2010 Mahi Fishing Derby

with their 19.45-lb. and 18.90-lb. catch, respectively.

My Lady Gora had four crew members—Jess Aldan, John Castro, Jason Aldan, and Ignacia Aldan, while Alvin Iglesias and Keith Torres comprise *Sea Ray*.

Cash and in-kind prizes were awarded for the Top 5 finishers, including \$1,500 to *St. Andrew* for winning first place.

Organizing committee chair John Guerrero congratulated the *St. Andrew* for winning the derby and thanked all the boat captains

See ST. ANDREW on Page 26



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
St. Andrew captain John Roberto and anglers Steve Reyes and Phil Roberto are congratulated by Saipan Fishermen Association president Gene Weaver and 6th Annual Mahi Fishing Derby organizing committee chair John Guerrero after topping the competition Saturday.